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PITTSBURGH AVENUE, MOUNT VERNON

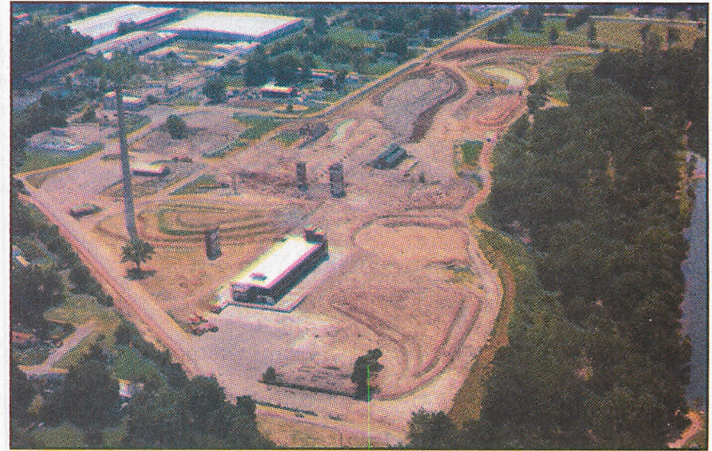
"Your sense of place changes when you go into successful city parks. They give you a feeling of going away without leaving town." — Alan Tate, author of "Great City Parks."

Several years back, Alan Tate's point of view influenced selections for a Forbes article recognizing extraordinary municipal parks. Great parks make great cities, and Forbes focused on iconic green spaces along the order of New York's Central Park and Chicago's Grant Park. But what of small towns? Central Park's benches could seat the entire population of Mount Vernon, so it's absurd to mention Ohio's 114th-largest city in the same conversation. Or not. No one suggests Ariel-Foundation Park can compete with 843 priceless acres of Manhattan. But civic leaders agree that Mount Vernon's largest park is miles ahead of what's typical in markets of similar size, and well worthy of national attention. When 2015 Independence Day celebrations roll around, people can judge for themselves.

On Friday, July 3, Mount Vernon will present its traditional fireworks display. Then the Ariel-Foundation Park Conservancy and the city will hold a traditional Independence Day celebration on July 4 at the 250-acre park. Activities will begin at 1 p.m. with an array of family friendly events, food and beverage vendors, and entertainment. The 45-piece Brass Band of Columbus will present an early-evening concert of patriotic music, followed by a ceremony for the conservancy to officially hand the park over to the city. A unique fireworks display will close out the day.

Ariel-Foundation Park has emerged from hardscrabble industrial ground God skipped when dishing out beauty. Flat and featureless, much of the land was used to quarry gravel. What remained was largely devoted to glass-making. Foundation Park originally had three nice sized fishing lakes and a few gravel roads. The Foundation Park Conservancy was formed to spiff up the park, and its mission grew much more complex after Karen Buchwald Wright and Ariel Foundation donated funds to purchase 60-acres that served as the former Pittsburgh Plate Glass company, which manufactured sheet glass until it was shuttered in the 1970s. The conservancy has also nibbled around the park's edges, acquiring a number of residential and commercial properties to create a buffer, enhance sight lines and create an impressive entryway.

The Park has named areas which offer natural and man-made features such as terraces and structural steel sculptures. The William Stroud Welcome Center occupies the historic CA&C Railroad Depot. "The Lakes" and "The Woods" is a shad-



ed getaway spot reclaimed from an illegal dump site. "The Meadows" are open fields suited to picnics and informal sports.

"The Ruins" are the park's most unique calling card. PPG's complex was largely demolished and either recycled or hauled away, but a few buildings and the site's iconic 280-foot smokestack were preserved. One of the buildings spared by the wrecking ball is now a unique open-sided Events Center. "The Ruins" also contains features called "The Labyrinth" and "River of Glass," as well as three reflecting ponds. Several brick stairwells are left standing, lonely reminders of the area's industrial heritage.



Knox County Experience Guide

Knox County Convention & Visitors Bureau
107 S. Main Street, Mount Vernon, OH 43050

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Left, Thayer Road, Mount Vernon by Joshua Worster
Middle, Honey Run Waterfall by Joshua Morrison
Right, Ariel-Foundation Park by Joshua Morrison

CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT	DATE	EVENT
Jan 29-31	Kenyon College presents: Euripides'	Aug 16	Dan Emmett Antique & Classic
Feb 2	Annual Danville Lions Raccoon Dinner		Car Show
Feb 4	Gund Concert Series: McConnell Arts	Aug 22-23	Praisestock
	Center Chamber Orchestra Winds	Sept 9-12	Fredericktown Tomato Show
Feb 7	Knox County Symphony	Sept 12	Gospel Gathering
Feb 20-21	Ohio Distinguished Young Women	Sept 12	CCA* presents: Ethan Bortnick
	Scholarship Program	Sept 13	Heart of Ohio USA Days Car Show
Mar 7	CCA* presents: Jason Coleman	Sept 17-19	Mohican Bluegrass Festival
Mar 21	CCA* presents: Brian Roman	Sept 18-20	Great Mohican Indian Pow-Wow
Apr	Orange Barrel Production Co. presents:	Sept 19-20	Old-time Farming Festival
	The True Story of the Three Little Pigs	Sept 25-27	MTVarts presents: Disney's Aladdin Jr.
Apr 2-4	Kenyon College presents: All My Sons	Oct 3	River of Fire Halloween Spectacular
Apr 11	CCA* presents: Susan Egan	Oct 3	Sweet Adelines/Dogwood Blossoms
June 18	Vaughn Wiester's Famous Jazz Orchestra		Barbershop Music Show
Apr 19	Earth Day Challenge & Festival	Oct 3-4	Heart of Ohio Tour
Apr 26	Knox County Symphony	Oct 10	CCA* presents: Savannah Jack
May 1-3	MTVarts presents: Death of a Salesman	Nov 29	Mount Vernon Christmas Parade
May 23-25	Utica Sertoma Ice Cream Festival		& Christmas Walk
June 4-7	Schnormeier Gardens Open House	Dec 6	MVNU Choral Union presents: Handel's
June 13	Right Brain Productions presents:		Messiah
	HopeNow Showcase Benefit		
June 17-20	Danville-Howard Turkey Festival		
June 19-20	Knox County Relay for Life		
June 24-27	Heart of Ohio USA Days Festival		
June 25-27	National WACO Club Fly-In		
July 3	Mount Vernon Fireworks		
July 4	Ariel-Foundation Park		
	Grand Opening Celebration		
July 4	Fredericktown 4th of July Celebration		
July 10-12	Great Mohican Indian Pow-Wow		
July 10-19	MTVarts presents: Mary Poppins		
Jul 26 - Aug 1	Knox County Fair		
Jul 26 - Aug 1	Knox County Fair Flower Show		
Aug 13-16	Dan Emmett Music & Arts Festival		
Aug 13-16	Dan Emmett Flower Show		
Aug 14-16	Knox County Quilt Show		

Recurring Activities

Chautauqua-Lyceum Series –Thursday (typ. 2nd, 4th)

First Friday – May - Oct

Second Saturday – Jan - Apr

Farmers Market – Every Saturday May - Oct

Woodward Opera House Tours - Sat. Jun - Oct

Knox Co. Historical Museum – Mar - Nov

Miller Observatory Open House – last Fri of month

Pheasantview Family Farm: Fall Farm Event

Every Sat & Sun Oct 3 - Nov 1

*CCA = Community Concert Association

Events subject to change

WELCOME TO KNOX COUNTY

20TH EDITION

The glitz and glamor of a big city can be exciting and breathtaking, but the same can be said of small rural communities. Knox County's scenic beauty, rich history, exquisite dining, top-notch theatrical productions, and invigorating recreation provide all the thrill and splendor of larger communities without the fast-paced chaos—or the high price tag. There are endless opportunities to meet everyone's needs, from relaxing vistas to adrenaline-filled amusements, from stunning indoor venues to unparalleled outdoor recreation. We invite you to Explore! – Engage! – Enjoy! the sights, sounds, and experiences that Knox County has to offer.

Nearly a third of the size of Central Park in New York City and with as many notable qualities, Ariel-Foundation Park has 250 acres for you to Explore! If you are a recreationalist, a sportsman, a naturalist, a history buff, or an appreciator of art, Ariel-Foundation Park offers something for everyone. Three quarry lakes provide plenty of room for fishing and boating. "The Woods" and "The Meadows" offer venues for bird watching and relaxing walks. The landscape architecture found at "The Terraces," inspired by the works of Charles Jencks, offers visually stimulating elements to Ariel-Foundation Park. The area known as "The Ruins" pays humble tribute to the former Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company, a product of the "gas and glass boom" of Knox County at the turn of the century. Steel and glass salvaged from demolished plant buildings have been repurposed to create modern sculptures. Ariel-Foundation Park will celebrate its grand opening on July 4 of this year.

The newly restored C. A. & C. Railroad Depot serves to Engage! visitors to Ariel-Foundation Park, the Heart of Ohio Trail (Knox County's newest recreational path), and downtown Mount Vernon. But more than that, this early-20th century depot marks the (near) center of the Ohio to Erie Trail, a 300-mile recreational biking path that stretches from Cincinnati to Cleveland primarily along historic railroad beds and canal levees. Expected this year is the connection of the Heart of Ohio Trail and Kokosing Gap Trail to create a continuous trail system the entire length of Knox County from Centerburg to Brinkhaven. Negotiations with key properties along the designated route have been finalized to make this important trail connection possible.

Whether exploring Mount Vernon's nationally recognized historic downtown or taking a leisurely drive along one of our scenic byways, Enjoy! the experiences, flavors, scenes, and heritage of central Ohio. You could travel to the big city for musical theater, fine dining, art museums, inspiring architecture, or simply a change of pace. But when you visit us, you will find all that and more right here in Knox County.

For further visitor information and up-to-date event schedules, please visit our website at www.VisitKnoxOhio.org, or call 740-392-6102 or toll-free at 1-800-837-5282. Like us on Facebook to stay up to date on Knox County events and news. If you are in the area and need visitor information, stop by our visitors info center at TheHarvest local foods store at 107 South Main Street in downtown Mount Vernon, open weekdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday.

Thank you for your interest in Knox County, and we look forward to your visit!

Pat Crow, Executive Director

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KNOXWAYS

Traveling across Knox County can prove to be a beautiful experience, whether if it's just a short jaunt along one of the county roads or trails or its an end-to-end venture through the entire county while traveling across Ohio. Knox County offers a variety of scenic vistas through its many trails, waterways, scenic byways and serene county roads.

Three designated bike paths provide the opportunity to be connected to other adjoining trails or to take a quick jaunt between villages in the county. The Heart of Ohio Trail and the Kokosing Gap Trail both feature beautiful wooded scenery as riders and hikers can connect with nature while traveling on the trails and stopping to rest on one of the many park benches along the way.

The Heart of Ohio Trail stretches from Centerburg to Mount Vernon and parallels Ohio 3/U.S. 36 for much of the way, ending at the CA&C Depot. Convenient stops are made available in Mount Liberty and at Thayer Road north of Bangs.

The Kokosing Gap Trail is a 14-mile stretch which snakes along the Kokosing River, reaching from Mount Vernon to Danville with stops in Howard and Gambier. The path follows an old railroad bed with popular stops including a trestle bridge near Mount Vernon, a coal-fired steam locomotive, flat-car and caboose in Gambier and an old-fashioned grist mill and park in Howard. Riders can continue on further east once they reach Danville by traveling on the Mohican Valley Trail.

A variety of parks are scattered around Knox County, with

each park having its own unique distinction. For those choosing a hike through the woods or some recreation time with their canine friend, Wolf Run Regional Park contains nearly seven miles of hiking trails across 30 acres. Dogs can also get some exercise off their leash and frolic with other dogs inside the 2-acre "Bark Park" located near the front of Wolf Run Park on Yaeger Road east of Mount Vernon.

Thayer Ridge Park on Thayer Road south of Ohio 3/U.S. 36 offers a bridal trail for horsemen and mountain bikers as well as hikers. Visitors can also try their hand at a nine-hole disc golf course.

Opportunities for fishing are plentiful at the Kokosing Dam and Knox Lake, both near Fredericktown.

Sockman Lake in Fredericktown boasts a beautiful sand beach for those looking to take a dip in the lake or do some sunbathing. Numerous municipal parks with playground equipment, shelter houses and open green spaces are also found in the numerous villages across the county.

For the little more adventurous, canoeing and kayaking opportunities exist at certain points along the Kokosing River, particularly in the eastern portion of Knox County, as well as the Mohican River and Ariel-Foundation Park.

Nature education for the youngsters is the fare at the Brown Family Environmental Center, operated by Kenyon College near the Kokosing Gap Trail on Laymon Road.

For more information on what Knox County has to offer, visit www.VisitKnoxOhio.org.

OHIO SCENIC WATER TRAILS

Two official Ohio Scenic Rivers wend their way through Knox County, providing a great escape from the hustle and bustle of everyday life and enjoy time fishing, canoeing, kayaking, rafting or tubing.

The Kokosing River was the first designated Scenic River in Ohio (its North Fork was added later), there are plenty of public access points: Mount Vernon's Riverside and Memorial parks, Lower Gambier Road, Laymon Road, Big Run Road, Pipesville Road, Millwood Road, Riley Chapel Road and the confluence with the Mohican River at Township Road 423 in Coshocton County. All of the access sites have parking areas, and many have picnic areas, restrooms, drinking water and connections with the Kokosing Gap Trail.

The Mohican River, which received scenic status in 2006 and is known for its clear, clean water, enters Knox County at its northeast corner, then winds south back and forth across the county line until it meets the Kokosing near Walhonding in Coshocton County. A highlight of the Mohican is the 370-foot Bridge of Dreams, near Brinkhaven, the longest covered trail bridge in the state.

Public access points on the Mohican include Greer Landing on Knox County Road 77 and several sites off



Hunter Road near Brinkhaven.

For anglers, the highlight of both rivers is the chance to tangle with the plentiful and hard-fighting smallmouth bass.

For more information on the rivers, contact the Knox County Park District at 740-392-7275 or visit knoxcounty-parks.org. See Maps on Pages 29-32 for access points.

RAILS TO TRAILS

HEART OF OHIO TRAIL

KOKOSING GAP TRAIL

MOHICAN VALLEY TRAIL

Communing with nature while staying in shape has never been easier in Knox County. An amazing system of bike trails makes it simple for visitors to experience the forests, wetlands, agriculture, flora fauna, and villages of Knox County at a pace suited to individual tastes. The multi-use trails are suitable for bicyclists, rollerbladers and hikers as well as those out for a leisurely stroll. Motorized wheelchairs and electric assistive mobility devices are welcome on all the trails, while all other motorized vehicles are prohibited.

The **Heart of Ohio Trail** starts at the Knox/Delaware county line and runs through Centerburg, Mount Liberty and Bangs and into Mount Vernon. The main access point is at Centerburg's Memorial Park, with a small gravel parking lot in Mount Liberty along with a trailside shelter and playground.

In Mount Vernon, the Heart of Ohio Trail connects with the 14-mile **Kokosing Gap Trail**, a scenic trek with end points in Mount Vernon at Memorial Park and Danville. The Trail, open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, has park benches about every 1/2 mile along its length and various amenities.

Water fountains and restrooms are available on the Trail in Mount Vernon, Gambier, Howard and in Danville the

facilities are in Memorial Park

A public phone is available at the shelter in Gambier, which is also the site of a coal-fired steam locomotive, flatcar and caboose and playground equipment. Parking and access points can also be found near the Brown Family Environmental Center on Laymon Road and off Zion Road.

In Danville, trekkers can connect with **The Mohican Valley Trail**, a 4.5 mile rail-to-trail through the spectacular Mohican River valley. The Trail links the Kokosing Gap Trail with the soon-to-be completed Holmes County Trail. Visit the 370-foot long "Bridge of Dreams" while traveling on this Trail. The parking lot for the Bridge of Dreams is located at 16606 Hunter Road.

While horses are not permitted on Heart of Ohio or Kokosing Gap trails, equestrians are welcome on the Mohican Valley Trail. Users with horse trailers can park at 402 East Street or 27825 Buckeye Road in Danville, 15700 Tiger Valley Road or below the Bridge of Dreams at 16606 Hunter Road.

People wanting a shorter, but still picturesque, route should try out the brand-new bike path in Fredericktown. North-end access to the 1.53 mile long path is at Fredericktown Community Park and the southern-most end is at Dana Park.



A Bridge to the Past — A Park for the Future

The strongest communities are those that live and work for the future while honoring the past. Mount Vernon has a long history with the glass industry. The Pittsburgh Plate Glass Plant, which operated from 1907 – 1976, was a prominent feature in many of our lives and in the landscape of our city. Now, Ariel Foundation Park, encompassing the former PPG site, will provide a glimpse back into Mount Vernon's rich heritage while providing recreational and leisure opportunities today and into the future.

The park incorporates historical structures from the PPG Plant along with lakes and green space that will be enhanced with new landscaping, including a variety of new trees and plants.

The park will eventually serve as a connecting point for the Kokosing Gap Trail and the Heart of Ohio Trail, making Mount Vernon a destination for cyclists, runners, and walkers. Please join other community members and organizations in supporting the development of this wonderful community resource.

To donate to the Ariel Foundation Park project please contact Michael Percy at fpconservancy@rroho.com



ArielFoundationPark.org

OHIO RIVER TO LAKE ERIE CORRIDOR

Want to travel from Cincinnati to Cleveland without using a car? You can do just that with the Ohio to Erie Trail. The off-road trail from the Ohio River to Lake Erie spans the state of Ohio from Cincinnati to Cleveland. When the Trail is completed, it will connect four of Ohio's metropolitan cities (Cincinnati, Columbus, Akron and Cleveland), a dozen large towns and small villages.

Bicyclists, hikers, equestrians, bird watchers, adventurers, nature lovers, photographers and more will have the opportunity to explore Ohio's beautiful nature on a secure, reserved path. Bikes, horses and skates can be seen on the Trail; with snowshoes and cross-country skiing in the winter. Visitors will see farmlands, rural areas, nature preserves, parks and cities. A variety of animals and plants can be found along the winding path as well.

Once completed, users can re-live the history of the state along the Ohio to Erie Trail including Amish history, canal history, Revolutionary War history, Civil War history, small-town history, railroad history and farming history. Many sections of the Trail are open and in daily use with 240 miles of the 300-mile length completed.

In Knox County, the Heart of Ohio Trail, Kokosing Gap Trail and the Mohican Valley Trail connect to make up a third of the Ohio to Erie Trail. This section offers visitors rail history, beautiful nature, picnic shelters, a Bridge of Dreams, Knox County his-



tory, and breathtaking views.

For more information about the Ohio to Erie Trail, visit www.ohioerietrail.org; or email ohioerietrail@gmail.com.

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AREA PARKS

KNOXCOUNTPARKS.ORG

A park offers a community a place to socialize, a place to relax and ponder, and a place to let loose. Knox County has a variety of parks offering trees and shade, playgrounds, soccer fields, skateboard parks and disc golf.

The Knox County Park District covers the largest collection of lands preserved and continues to protect nature and wildlife in Knox County. County parks includes Bat Nest River Road with approximately 2.7 acres of wetlands, Indianfield Bluffs Park with picnic benches and grills, Hellbender Preserve with buckeye trees and amphibians, and Honey Run Waterfall with a 25- foot high waterfall and hiking paths. Wolf Run Park offers a nearly two-acre dog park for dog lovers and Thayer Ridge Park has a nine-hole disc golf course for the avid player.

Approximately 130 acres of nature has been protected by the Fredericktown Recreation District, which includes six parks. The Community Park, Merrin Park, Warner Park, Levering Park, Dana Park and Issacs Run Park offers recreation for all ages with ball fields, tennis courts, playgrounds, and swimming.

The original sections of Ariel-Foundation Park are a popular destination for local residents. The "industrial" site of the park is under-construction, but will soon be a spectacular 250-acre public park. Being built on the site of the former Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co., the Park will be within walking

distance of downtown Mount Vernon. Visitors will enjoy lakes, woods, picnic areas, a bike path, walking trails, an events center, historic ruins, and more. The entire park is expected to be completed in 2015.

Both Centerburg and Danville offer outdoor activities for residents. The Centerburg Joint Recreation District hosts sports events, seasonal activities and recreational programs. Paw prints and footprints can be found at Centerburg's Dog Walk and Pizza for Pooches. The event joins humans and canines for an unforgettable date with pizza, cheese, and a possible sloppy goodnight kiss. Centerburg also offers community gardens where residents are able to plant. Gardeners are responsible for their own tools and supplies, as well as weeding and watering. The garden is located near the intersection of West Houck Street and North Clayton Street. Registration forms are available every spring at the Centerburg Public Library.

Danville, known as "The Gateway to Amish Country" holds a key to the 300-mile Ohio to Erie Trail system with the Kokosing Gap Trail running from Mount Vernon to Danville, where the Mohican Valley Trail picks up and leads to the Holmes County line.

Information on the area's parks is available online at www.knoxcountyparks.org.



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(740) 392-BOOK

Fredericktown Community Library

1 Burgett Drive
694-BOOK

Danville Public Library

512 S. Market Street
599-BOOK

Gambier Community Library

115 Meadow Lane
427-BOOK

CA&C DEPOT

ARIELFOUNDATIONPARK.ORG

501 SOUTH MAIN STREET, MOUNT VERNON

Officially, it's named the Cleveland Akron & Columbus Depot at Ariel-Foundation Park. It houses the William Stroud Welcome Center, and since its re-dedication in May of 2014 has been tasked with showing visitors what the Park and Mount Vernon have to offer.

If only it could talk.

Locals who struggle to think of the century-old building at Columbus Road and South Main Street as the CA&C Depot should be excused if they call it Penn Station, or the Conrail depot, or the Station Break Senior Center, or the train station by the bike path. After all, it has been all of those things, and few know much, if anything, about the long-gone CA&C. That's what happens when buildings outlive their builders.

If only it could talk.

Many names could have been hung on the old depot, which shines like a new penny since a \$350,000 restoration. Rail service to Mount Vernon began in 1851, and even a glimpse at the many mergers and acquisitions during the golden age of railroads yields a dizzying alphabet soup of names and acronyms.

Enter Michael Percy. The self-avowed railroad junkie is a member of the Ariel-Foundation Park Conservancy, he oversaw the depot's restoration as a labor of love. 1970s kitsch was peeled away, revealing an authentic look of American rail travel before it was put out to pasture by airlines the same way trains had pastured the stagecoach. Research showed the CA&C as most prominent among operators between the depot's 1907 opening and the end of Mount Vernon passenger service in 1959. So CA&C Depot it is.

The brick depot with wood trim was a workhorse for a century, and now begins its third and perhaps final mission. From rail terminal to senior center to welcome center, it's survived decades of hard use and looks ready for many decades more.

Top and bottom, the refurbished depot is largely original. Ludowici tile comes with a 75-year warranty, so at 108 and counting the depot roof is out of warranty, but seemingly good as new. Original terrazzo flooring in the main hall has been rescued from layers of carpet and glue, and hardwood flooring in the old freight room remains. Interior walls, ceilings and trim are of contemporary materials with period looks. Restroom facilities and the HVAC system are new, though heat in the Stroud Welcome Center is delivered by stylish, period-correct cast iron radiators.

The welcome center is a destination in its own right as it is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. But, it is also a clearing house for information about the unique, 250-acre Ariel-Foundation Park, the city of Mount Vernon and the Heart of Ohio and Kokosing Gap trails that connect alongside the old passenger platform. Asphalt has replaced rails to create a nearly complete county-wide recreation corridor.

The CA&C Depot at Ariel-Foundation Park offers information, drinking water, vending, restrooms, bicycle racks and a picnic pavilion, and is open daylight hours from April through October.



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HIAWATHA WATER PARK/POOL

MOUNTVERNONOHIO.ORG

100 SYCHAR ROAD, MOUNT VERNON

A popular getaway during the summer months for those in Knox County (and central Ohio) is the Hiawatha Water Park/Pool, located on Sychar Road near the intersection of Beech Street. This up-to-date, modern facility provides a chance to enjoy some water recreation, cool off on a hot summer day or grab some refreshments while spending time with family or friends.

Operated by the City of Mount Vernon, Hiawatha Water Park/Pool is open June through Labor Day. The old municipal pool, built in the 1950s, consisted of a basic swimming pool with diving boards with no modern amenities. As the concept of public swimming pools was changing, a newly-refurbished water park was opened in June 2008. An entire new facility was built, including locker rooms and concession stand. New features of the water park now include two giant slides, one which loops you around in a long circular coil before dumping you out into the pool; and the other which is more of a straight shot which will shoot you into the cascading waters with much more trajectory. Water guns provide even more excitement for the ambitious youngsters at the pool.

There is also a kiddie pool and a zero-entry pool for those who are not quite ready to take an immediate plunge into deeper waters.



Situated to the north is Hiawatha Park where youngsters can enjoy some time on playground equipment or take in a basketball game on the basketball courts.

Daily admission rates are available for various age groups, and season passes can also be purchased for individuals as well as families.

For more information about the park, visit www.mountvernonohio.org/departments/water-park/

UNIQUE GIFTS



an artists' co-op

15 North Main Street, Mount Vernon

10a-5p, Tues-Sat

Other hours by appointment

740-501-8586

Kudos is an artist co-op at 15 N. Main St., Mt. Vernon, Ohio featuring the work of local artists. There is a wide range of mediums represented in the gallery - stained glass, photography, pottery, soap, etched glass, wood, fiber, painting, blown glass, paper and jewelry.

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- + Rubber Duck River Race

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THEATER & THE PERFORMING ARTS

The Mount Vernon Players — The Mount Vernon Players have been performing in Knox County for the past 51 years. Since its beginning in 1963 as a play-reading group with only a few members, the group has grown over time to perform more than 175 musicals, dramas, productions for children, dinner theaters and more. Recent productions include “The Drowsy Chaperone” (2014), “Into the Woods” (2013), “Company” (2012), “Little Shop of Horrors” (2010) and “You’re a Good Man Charlie Brown” (2009).

The Players’ current season, upcoming shows and audition information can be found at www.mtvplayers.org.

MTVarts — MTVarts has been a staple presence in downtown Mount Vernon since 2007. MTVarts brings Classic Series performances to the stage with Arthur Miller’s “Death of a Salesman” as well as Broadway productions in the summer. In the fall, MTVarts continues its MTVartsIQ theatre camp, which teaches youth in the community about the art of the stage and all that goes into a performance. In September of 2015 the workshop will produce “Aladdin Jr.” Recent productions include “The Little Mermaid Jr.” (2014), “Shrek: The Musical” (2014), “How I Became a Pirate” (2013), “Of Mice and Men” (2013) and “Grease” (2012).

MTVarts also partners with groups Right Brain Productions and Orange Barrel Production Company. For more information

about MTVarts, upcoming productions or tickets to an event, visit www.mtvarts.com.

College drama — Local colleges and universities showcase several different drama performances. Mount Vernon Nazarene University, in Mount Vernon, and Kenyon College, in Gambier, have programs to give students experience, skills and trials in the dramatic arts through performances for both the student body and the community. Visit www.kenyon.edu or www.mvnu.org.

Chautauqua — Elixir presents historical dramatic presentations with living historical performances at ThePlace@TheWoodward, 111 S. Main St. in Mount Vernon. Every year the group puts together a theme that brings history to life and lets the audience peer inside the mind of an important figure in time. For more information, Chautauqua can be accessed at www.elixirpresents.com.

The Alcove — The Alcove Dinner Theatre, located within the Alcove Restaurant, 116 S. Main St. in Mount Vernon, has several different genres of productions year round. From Bruce Jacklin and Company, the 2015 spring season brings “Always Patsy Cline” from Feb. 6-7, 13-14, 20-12, 27-28, and March 6-7. “Radio T.B.S.” (Radio Trailer Park Broadcasting Scandals) opens April 10-11, and continues 17-18, 24-25. For more information visit www.alcoverestaurant.com and click on Dinner Theatre.

MTVarts

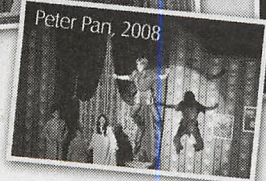
Imagine more, together!

www.mtvarts.com
Find us on Facebook!

Beauty and The Beast, 2007



Peter Pan, 2008



The Wizard of Oz, 2009



Annie, 2010



Cinderella, 2011



Grease, 2012



Music Man, 2013



Shrek, 2014



Coming in 2015!

May: Death of a Salesman

July: Mary Poppins

August: artsIQ

Youth Workshop

September: Aladdin Jr.

MTVarts produces and promotes quality, affordable, family entertainment. Check online for upcoming event details!

GAMBIER

Gambier is much more than a college town, and offers many activities including parks, Quarry Chapel, Middle Path, beautiful scenery, events, shops, restaurants and more.

The park at the Gambier Community Center features a playground, ball fields, a soccer field, and a picnic area with a shelter house. The Gambier Dog Park is also part of the Community Center Park, and is opened from dawn to dusk. The park was created in 2007 and offers a place for man's best friend to romp and play.

Built in 1862, the Quarry Chapel, was built by Kenyon College as a place to worship. Officially named the Christ Church at the Quarry, the chapel is one of the oldest buildings in the county. In 1972, the Knox County Historical Society formed the Quarry Chapel Restoration Society and began the work of restoration. Extensive renovation and restoration work include new stained glass windows, designed by Carol Rubenstein; the bell tower was cleaned out and repainted; 20 pews were built; and a new oak floor was built in the nave, steps and sanctuary. The Quarry Chapel is available for weddings and events.

The College's Middle Path serves as the village's main pedestrian highway where students and residents mingle together to create a unified atmosphere. The path is currently being renovated in phases that will include stormwater control, new gravel and a healthy abundance of trees.

Downtown Gambier offers shops and restaurants for all tastes including the Gambier Deli, The Village Market, Wiggin Street Coffee, The Weather Vane, the Village Inn, the Kenyon College Bookstore and the Gambier Grill.

The Gambier Deli is celebrating 22 years and offers deli sandwiches and salads; breakfast foods including menu labels of "Omelettes," "Eggs Erroneous," "Egg Samitches," and "You won't get this at home"; a catering menu for breakfast, lunch, deli trays and box lunches; and a hot cup of joe is available for coffee enthusiasts. The deli is opened Monday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Tuesday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. For more information, visit www.gambierdeli.com.

For your boutique needs, The Weather Vane offers services for women of all ages and sizes. The boutique offers jackets, pants, dresses, sweaters, tops, leggings, tights and accessories. Brands include Tribal, Angie, Star of India, Multiples, Southern Lady,



Karen Hart, Lana Lee, Downeast and more. For more information, visit www.weathervanegambier.com.

The Kenyon College Bookstore offers a plethora of books and small gifts, and college apparel and merchandise. The bookstore is open 362 days every year; closed on Christmas Day, Thanksgiving and June 30. Regular hours are 8 a.m. to 11 p.m., seven days a week, while school is in session.

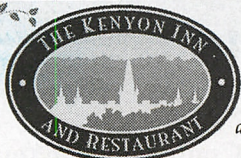


Games, puzzles, toys, chocolate, greeting cards,
art supplies and, of course, books.

The Kenyon College Bookstore
106 Gaskin Ave • Gambier



www.kenyoncollegebookstore.com



The Kenyon Inn and Restaurant

Replenish • Reward • Refresh • Refine

Indulge in fine wine, savory entrées, and tantalizing desserts at our celebrated restaurant that features an elegant, yet relaxed, dining atmosphere. An unforgettable experience whether joining us as a hotel or restaurant guest.

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Inn guests have access to the swimming pool and workout facilities at the Kenyon Athletic Center. We are easily accessible to parks, golf courses, Gund Gallery, The Olin Art Gallery, performing arts theaters and The Kokosing Gap Trail. We are minutes from historical downtown Mount Vernon which offers a plenitude of artisan boutiques, gift shops and antique stores.

Our restaurant focuses on bringing you the freshest seasonal ingredients from local growers and producers. In addition to excellent service in a relaxed and refined atmosphere, you are treated to carefully crafted menus that reflect the charming character of the Mid-West.

100 Wiggin Street Gambier, Ohio 43022 740.427.2202 www.kenyoninn.com

KENYON COLLEGE

WWW.KENYON.EDU

GAMBIER

There is scarcely a bad time to visit Kenyon College, a top-tier liberal arts college. Its campus, listed on The National Register of Historic Places and nestled in the quaint village of Gambier, abounds with architectural wonders.

Founded in 1824 as a seminary by Episcopalian Bishop Philander Chase close to the Kokosing River, Kenyon remains partly defined by its agricultural surroundings. You may hear the horse trot of an Amish buggy on Wiggin Street as you walk Middle Path while you listen to the Church of the Holy Spirit toll the Westminster chimes.

Middle Path, which runs the length of the campus, is home to Old Kenyon and Bexley Hall, prime examples of historic American Gothic buildings, Rosse Hall showcases the Greek-Revival style and Samuel Mather Hall actually has gargoyles.

More than 1,600 students call "the hill" home. They come from all 50 states and 45 countries, ranging from Bangladesh to Brazil, from Denmark to Greece, from India to Malaysia, from Myanmar to New Zealand, from Portugal to South Africa, from Sweden to Zimbabwe and join a long list of alumni including U.S. President Rutherford B. Hayes, actor Paul Newman, comedian Jonathan Winters, Calvin

and Hobbes creator Bill Watterson, and actress Allison Janney. Famed for a rigorous English program that drew in 20th century literati like E.L. Doctorow and John Crowe Ransom, Kenyon maintains 34 other major programs which have earned it accolades in both the arts and sciences.

Full trophy cases are testament to Kenyon's brawn as well as brain. The men's swimming team has claimed 32 NCAA Division III national championships, with the women's team claiming 23 titles, making Kenyon a nationally recognized powerhouse in the waters. And beneath the shining national champion trophies, you'll find a dirty old relic at odds with the clean glass-and-steel of the athletic center: The celebrated pigskin from the 1893 football game with the Ohio State University, which Kenyon won, 42-6.

The Gund Art Center serves as a location for art exhibits, films, lectures and symposia. While some screenings are for students only, most are free and open to the public.

A rich variety of cultural and sports events are open to the public. Schedules can be viewed by visiting www.kenyon.edu. No matter the reason for your visit, Gambier is a place that welcomes you for an hour or a day; Kenyon's door is always open.

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(Just off The Kokosing Gap Trail)



Kenyon College

welcomes visitors to Knox County. Come tour our historic campus, often called one of the nation's most beautiful. Visit us on the web at www.kenyon.edu and check the calendar for concerts, lectures, plays, sporting events, and other happenings on campus—most of them free and open to the public.

The Village Market

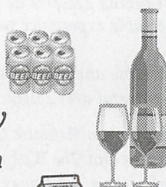
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BROWN FAMILY ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

WWW.KENYON.EDU/BFEC

9781 LAYMON ROAD, GAMBIER

The Brown Family Environmental Center is a must-see for visitors wanting to explore nature and celebrate natural diversity all yearlong. Located at 9781 Laymon Road, just south of Ohio 229 near Gambier, the BFEC is a farm, a research facility, a 480-acre classroom and a recreation spot.

The Center, operated by Kenyon College, includes a 7-acre prairie, a 10-acre wetland, a white-pine plantation with a thousand trees and expansive grasslands.

The preserve and many programs are open to the public. Enjoy scenic views along the Kokosing River valley on 7 miles of hiking trails that traverse forest, prairie and wetlands. Visit for an event or a picnic in the wildlife garden, with over 60 species of native plants and the many birds and butterflies they attract.

Other special areas include the Butterfly Garden, the Woodland Wildflower Garden, the Medicinal Garden, four replicate ponds and the Brown family farmhouse.

Visitors can watch the bluebirds and tree swallows along the Bluebird Trail which includes 15 nesting boxes, and the shoreline of the Kokosing River affords glimpses of heron and kingfishers.

Throughout the year the BFEC offers a children's day camp, Earth Day celebrations, hikes and many environmen-







tal programs on astronomy, insects, reptiles, plantings and bird-watching, as well as an annual Harvest Festival in October.

For more information, call program manager Heather Doherty at 740-427-5050 or email dohertyh@kenyon.edu.



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**Brown Family
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Open to the public!

- * Eight miles of nature trail
- * Wildlife garden
- * Programs for adults & children




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Down the alley behind the Post Office

KNOX COUNTY RESTAURANTS

Knox County is home to many different restaurants, eateries and diners where patrons can select from a wide range of cuisine to delight and excite the taste buds. Whether you're in the mood for an exotic and worldly dish, or you're looking for a pre-game snack, there are endless possibilities.

The **Howard Hilton**, 23379 Coshocton Avenue in Howard, is home to the world famous Feesh Bowl and a fun atmosphere. Visitors will enjoy a view of the game on the big screen while chowing down on each day's special. The Howard Hilton features Taco Tuesday, brats on Wednesday, and wing night on Thursdays. Jam along to your favorite tracks each night, as the jukebox becomes a free-for-all after 8 p.m. The Howard Hilton is open Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 1 a.m., and Sunday 11 a.m. to 1 a.m. Call 740-599-2337.

Travel east from Mount Vernon to the historic village of Gambier and sample fine wine and delectable desserts at The Kenyon Inn, 100 W. Wiggin St. **The Kenyon Inn** features world class cuisine for every time of day, as it serves breakfast, brunch, lunch, cocktail hour, dinner and, if there's any room left, dessert. If you sleep in a bit on Sunday morning, stop by for an Italian Benedict, with roasted red and yellow peppers, and Capicola on a poached egg and a pesto hollandaise sauce. Call 740-427-2202.

Right down the street, **The Gambier Deli**, 110 Gaskin Ave., brings a taste of the Big Apple to the village with breakfast, lunch and latte. Drop by for lunch and a cappuccino, with over 87 menu items there is something for everyone, or choose your own combination to satisfy all your cravings. Enjoy a warm Vanilla Mocha Latte after lunch, or splurge for a Snickers Mocha for dessert. The Gambier Deli is also available for catering and is open Monday through Sunday. Call 740-427-4324.

Enter the city limits of Mount Vernon to find **Jake's Restaurant**, 966 Coshocton Ave., the "place for steak" in Knox County. With its down home atmosphere, you can find lunch, dinner and dessert, along with a full bar and plenty of room to watch the game or catch up on the



news. Jake's features tasty and crisp appetizers, like their Beer Battered Mushrooms, along with their Sirloin Skillet, which features a flavor-filled steak cooked to order with Yukon Gold potatoes. Jake's is open Monday through Sunday for both lunch and dinner. Call 740-397-1418.

Sips Coffee House and Deli, 101 S. Main St. in downtown Mount Vernon, features a quiet, serene and eclectic restaurant that's home to a range of coffees, teas and endless food options. With its local art and alternative soundtrack in the background you can relax with a whole bean coffee of your choice. Sips has daily specials, fresh bakery items along with breakfast, lunch and dinner menus available. Lunch items range from tasty snack wraps and paninis to warm, fresh soups and salads. Sips is open Monday through Saturday. Call 740-392-2233.

Right down the street in historic downtown Mount Vernon stop by **The Alcove Restaurant**, 116 S. Main St., and experience the legendary elegance that has been around since 1911. The Alcove features lunch, dinner and

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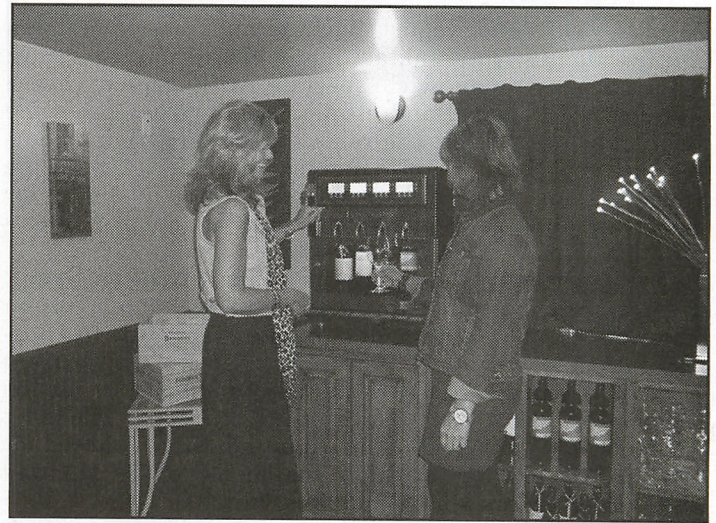
23379 COSHOCTON RD. HOWARD, OH • 740-599-BEER (2337)

KNOX COUNTY RESTAURANTS

a full bar within The Library. Banquet space and an exciting dinner theater schedule is also available. Lunch features several fast and inexpensive options, along with the baked brie salad, crab and asparagus soup and more. Dinner offers appetizers to start things off right, from Alcove Mushroom Caps to spinach artichoke dip. Move on to the main course and try Lake Erie walleye or their epic chicken cordon bleu. The Alcove Restaurant is open for lunch and dinner Monday through Saturday. Call 740-392-3076.

The trendiest secret of downtown Mount Vernon is found at **Winestein**, 156 Howard St. As its name suggests, the luxury lounge and eatery is home to a variety of fine wines and beer selections. Toasty appetizers are available, ranging from a gourmet cheese plate to Winestein's tasty take on Bruschetta. With sandwiches, fantastic flatbreads and entrees to delight, the menu is expansive and worth coming back for more. The wine selection is vast, and wine flights are available to try for yourself or dare to share with a friend. There are specials daily, and events throughout the month on their events calendar. Winestein is open Monday through Saturday. Call 740-326-6492.

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suede shoes and malts-n-shakes and visit **R&M's Southside Diner**, 620 S. Main St., in Mount Vernon. Southside Diner features their famous Blue Plate

Continued on Page 18



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Mike has taken top prize in the following competitions:

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- Gluten Free American Pizza Championship, Orlando, Florida
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- Country Club Retirement Campus Pizza Contest
- 2nd Place - New York City's America's Plate World Championship Competitor

KNOX COUNTY RESTAURANTS

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For a taste of authentic Greek cuisine, **Athens Greek Restaurant** is a must for any visitor to Mount Vernon and Knox County. The smell of roasted lamb fills the intimate diner as guests choose from a selection of appetizers and main entrees that are just as "at home" in Mount Vernon or a seaside restaurant in Greece. The best baklava in Central Ohio is rumored to be offered at Athens Greek Restaurant, which is open Monday through Saturday. Call 740-392-9006.

Northeast of Mount Vernon you can find a tasty treat in Fredericktown at Mike Amheiser's famous **Pizza Dock**, 92 S. Main St. With its own unique style Pizza Dock produces specialty and classic recipes, ranging from White Chicken, Cheezy Meatball pizzas to Mike's Favorite. Pizza Dock also features favorites such as



baked spaghetti, garlic cheese bread, sandwiches, like the Phat Philly, and Pizza Turtles, and provides free delivery with each order. Pizza Dock is open Tuesday through Sunday. Call 740-694-1555.



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KNOX COUNTY LODGING GUIDE

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www.comfortinn.com

The Chaney Manor

7864 Newark Road
Mount Vernon, OH 43050
740-392-2304

The Cider House

13041 Vincent Road
Mount Vernon, OH 43050
740-398-9607

Danville Outdoors Lodging

7 West Ross Street
Danville, OH 43014
740-599-6122

Felicia's Guest House

10996 Banning Road
Mount Vernon, OH 43050
740-397-2279

The Gambier House

107 East Wiggin Street
Gambier, OH 43022
740-427-2668
www.gambierhouse.com

The Gambier Loft

20971 Hopewell Road
Gambier, OH 43022
614-578-5997

The Harcourt Motel

400 Harcourt Road
Mount Vernon, OH 43050
740-397-0490

Holiday Inn Express

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Mount Vernon, OH 43050
800-HOLIDAY

Indian Bear Lodge

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www.indianbearlodge.com

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740-599-6631

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740-392-9881
www.mountvernoninnblog.com

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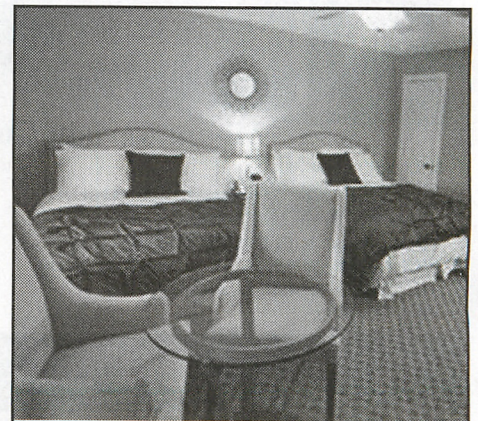
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Super 8 Motel

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www.super8.com

White Oak Inn

29683 Walhonding Road
Danville, OH 43014
740-599-6107
www.whiteoakinn.com



KNOX COUNTY LODGING

Knox County overnight accommodations can match the wallet and amenity wishes of any visitor. Whether it be the wish for a simple bed and shower or an elegant bed and breakfast or something with a scenic countryside, Knox County has it.

Located on the beautiful historic campus of Kenyon College in Gambier, **The Kenyon Inn and Restaurant**, 100 W. Wiggin St., offers lodging as well as a four-star restaurant with a wide selection of tasteful entrees. The Inn also offers exciting wedding packages for a memorable wedding.

Guests can easily enjoy many attractions offered by the college, including the Gund Gallery, the Olin Art Gallery, performing arts theaters and a whole range of campus events. Kenyon College Athletic Center with its indoor Olympic-sized pool and exercise facility is also open to guests. Call 740-427-2202.

The Brown Family Environmental Center is within easy distance to the Inn, as is access to the Kokosing Gap Trail.

Mount Vernon Comfort Inn is located on the bank of the Kokosing River at 150 Howard St., Mount Vernon. From the motel, guests have easy access to the Kokosing Gap Trail and to Ariel-Foundations Park, which links to the Heart of Ohio Trail. It's also an easy walk to the shops and restaurants of downtown Mount Vernon.

The Comfort Inn has been entirely renovated with new bedding, drapes, furniture, lighting, tile, vanities and headboards. An



elevator makes reaching upper stories a snap.

The "pet friendly" motel offers free Wi-Fi, a microwave and refrigerator, as well as an indoor pool, hot tub and sauna. Rooms with kitchenettes are available and a hot breakfast buffet is offered. Call 740-392-6886.

The historic **Russell-Cooper House Bed and Breakfast Inn**, 115 E. Gambier St., Mount Vernon, is an exquisitely restored Victorian-era home. The style and elegance of the house make it a perfect backdrop for reunions, social gatherings and intimate weddings.

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Mount Vernon Comfort Inn

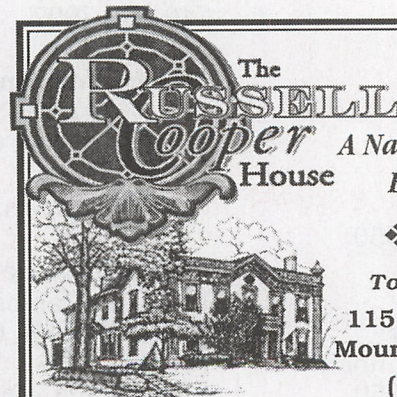
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KNOX COUNTY LODGING

large and small dining rooms for special events. Each of the bedrooms is uniquely decorated in Victorian fashion, including one with an Oriental theme that features items collected in Japan and Thailand. The home is noted for its painted ceilings, intricate woodwork, cabinet with a display of Dr. John Russell's medical instruments and gourmet meals.

Innkeeper Tom Dvorak is the husband of the fifth-generation of the family which has owned the home since the 1850s when Dr. John Russell moved a cabin from High Street to add on to the existing 1829 house. Russell then built the large front section to house his family and clinic. Dr. Russell's daughter later married Col. William Cooper, who served in the U.S. Congress. Call 740-397-8638.

Visitors will feel old-style charm and hospitality when staying at the **Mount Vernon Inn**. Located in Mount Vernon at 601 W. High St. (Ohio 36), the Inn features tastefully decorated rooms and suites. Come and enjoy the colorful relaxing gardens, free Wi-Fi, full complimentary breakfast and evening glass of wine or beer. A one-bedroom cottage and four-bed house also have Jacuzzis for added relaxation. Off-site apartments are available to rent for extended stays. Call 740-392-9881.

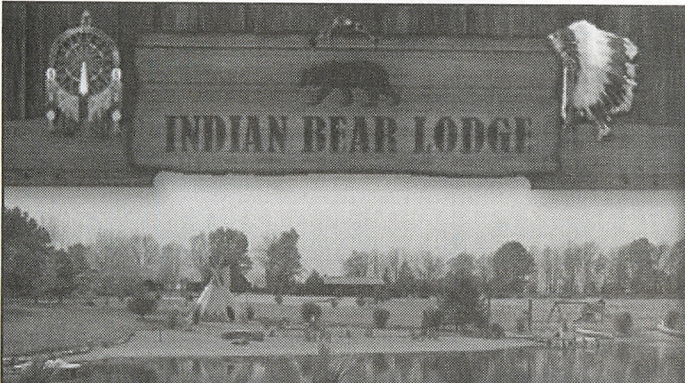
Conventional hostelry can be found on the east side of Mount Vernon at the **Super 8 Motel**, 1000 Coshocton Road (U.S. 36). Conveniently located to shopping areas and restaurants, Super 8



offers an indoor pool, poolside hospitality room and whirlpool suites. The bedrooms have refrigerators and hair dryers, along with cable television with HBO, high-speed wireless Internet. A complimentary deluxe continental breakfast is just the thing to start your day off right. Call 740-397-8885.

For those wishing for a romantic getaway or just relaxation in a rural setting, **White Oak Inn**, on Ohio 715 just outside of Danville, is just the place. The award-winning Inn features rooms in the main house, in the guest house and, for more privacy, luxury log cabin cottages. Candlelight dinners, whirlpool


Continued on Page 22

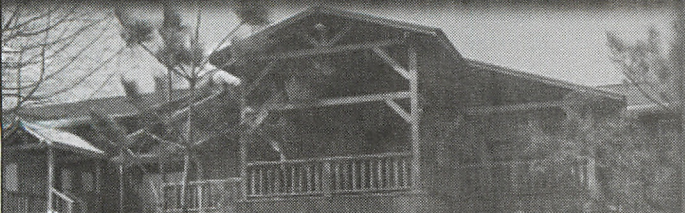



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KNOX COUNTY LODGING

Continued from Page 21

tubs and fireplaces all add to the ambiance. It is the perfect location for weddings and school and family reunions as well as a leisurely vacation spot to get away from it all. Call 740-599-6107.

Indian Bear Lodge, 15 miles south of Mount Vernon on McCament Road, is a place where guests can pamper themselves and be pampered. Accommodations on the 200 acres of spectacular scenery include the main lodge, a smaller lodge carriage house and smaller cabins, and come with a private hot tub, fireplace, grill, fully-equipped kitchen and a yard with picnic table and fire pit. The Wellness Center offers massages, manicures and pedicures. Call 740-668-2100.

If you are looking for a secluded, private place, a serene haven in a tranquil setting where you can write, read, paint, and enjoy the outdoors, **The Sanctuary at Wild Rose Acres** might be the place for you. Call 740-507-7718.

Located five miles south of Mount Vernon, just off Ohio 13, the bed and breakfast sanctuary features a luxurious room with lovely pastoral views of pond, garden and fields. The room is spacious, with a cathedral ceiling, it is furnished with a comfortable, king-size sleigh bed and has a spa-like bath, with a bidet, a 4-by-4 tiled shower with a built-in bench and a 150-gallon Japanese Soaking Tub.

Other amenities include: Private entryway, wireless Internet, microwave, mini-refrigerator, breakfast served in your room, morning newspapers, television by request, large DVD selection, hair dryer, alarm clock and books on request.

On-site activities include stables, bicycle riding trails, bicycles, billiards, bird watching, canoeing, cross-country ski trails, downhill skiing, fishing, golfing, hiking trails, tennis courts, kayaking, catch and release fishing on site, massage, Reiki and CranioSacral Therapies.

No matter the season or the reason, **The Gambier House Bed and Breakfast**, 107 E. Wiggin St., Gambier, is a welcome retreat and center of operations for all your Knox County or Kenyon College needs.

Ideally located across from the main campus of Kenyon College, the 1845 home has been lovingly restored and decorated. It features a formal parlor, family room, fireplaces, antiques and hidden staircases as well as five bedrooms and an attached suite. The Gambier House has central air and heat and is a non-smoking bed and breakfast.

After enjoying a full gourmet breakfast, guests can relax in the tranquility of the weeping cherry courtyard or watch the world go by on a front porch rocker. More active types will find easy access to the Kokosing Gap Trail, Kenyon College events and everything Knox County has to offer.

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MVNU.EDU

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Mount Vernon Nazarene University is located on the south side of Mount Vernon on Martinsburg Road. A private, four-year, intentionally Christian institute of higher education, it offers degrees in more than 80 fields of study, while emphasizing academic excellence, spiritual growth, and service to community and church.

Visitors are welcome on campus and tours are available for prospective students and parents. Highlights of the campus include the R.R. Hodges Chapel/Auditorium, the Prince Student Union, and Hyson Campus Center. The 586 Café, open to visitors, is in the Prince Student Union, along with two intramural gyms. The Dining Commons are located in Hyson Campus Center and are open to all visitors for breakfast, lunch and dinner.

On the south side of campus are the historic Lakeholm Manor, a beautiful gazebo, a reflecting pond and a large, grassy area perfect for family picnics.

MVNU facilities in downtown Mount Vernon on South Main Street include the Buchwald Center which houses the university's art program and the Schnormeier Gallery, which is free and open to the public. Hunter Hall, next door to Buchwald, is home to the nursing program and Baker Bros Café.

The university offers a variety of free concerts, lectures,

and plays throughout the year, all of which are open to the public. For more information about these events or the university, go to www.mvnu.edu.







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FIRST FRIDAY

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DOWNTOWN MOUNT VERNON

The first Friday of each month, from May through October, ushers in a host of family-friendly activities as streets in historic downtown Mount Vernon are closed to vehicles and become a mecca for pedestrians looking to shop and socialize.

Coordinated by the Heritage Centre Association, First Friday festivities begin at 6 p.m. and feature live performances, fantastic food, unique crafts and the iconic Cruise-In on Public Square.

The main stage on Public Square serves up featured artists each month while other vocalists and bands grace sites such as the Buchwald Plaza Gazebo and other locations on South Main Street.

Attractions for children include the Kid's Corner on the Square, with a petting zoo, face painting, balloon creations and more. Youthful visitors strolling further south on Main Street will discover an inflated Moon Bounce ride and a variety of science-related activities provided by the Science Play Space Initiative.

In September, the annual Rubber Duck Race takes place on the Kokosing River, raising money for the Heritage Centre Association and offering contestants the chance to win a slew of prizes.

Shops are open extended hours during First Fridays in order for visitors to have ample time shopping in the historic



district.

The Heritage Centre Association also sponsors "Shop Small Saturday" on the Saturday after Thanksgiving, a nationwide emphasis on shopping locally, especially for the holiday season, and assists with the annual Christmas Walk and Parade on the Sunday after Thanksgiving.

For more information, call the Heritage Centre Association at 740-393-1481 or visit the website.

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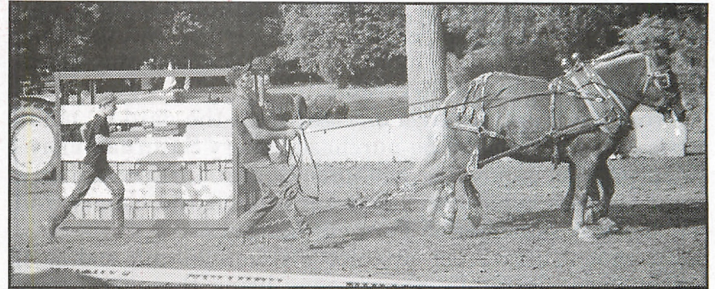
CENTERBURGOH.COM

"The Heart of it All" is more than a license plate slogan in Centerburg. Ohio bills itself America's heartland, and Centerburg in turn is proclaimed Ohio's geographic center. Full disclosure: Some contend the state's epicenter is in nearby Delaware County. But Centerburg has the apropos name and city limit signs to match, and won't surrender its moniker any time soon.

First platted in 1834, the village was a stagecoach crossroads, and later a stop for the Toledo and Ohio Central, New York Central, Cleveland Akron and Columbus, and Pennsylvania railroads. As a small village in a county with nary an inch of Interstate highway, Centerburg never became a freeway destination. But when many 'burgs faded away after losing rail service, Centerburg survived.

Location along the 3C Highway and a growing farm community kept Centerburg viable, and today it has attributes disenchanted urbanites find attractive. It experienced the pain of the housing collapse, but stands to rebound when suburban sprawl reignites. Increased population density in Delaware and Franklin counties may well make Centerburg's elbow room and vibrant schools look good to potential commuters.

Those who relocate to Centerburg find a tight-knit community that takes pride in its livability and traditional values. They also find a pair of successful festivals held annually at



Centerburg Community Park that reflect those values. The Heart of Ohio USA Days, held in late June, has a distinct patriotic flavor.

"This is great," said Gail Edwards of Pataskala as she took a break at the USA Days festival while her granddaughter, Kiersten, 8, enjoyed an ice cream cone. "We're planning to stay all day."

She and her husband, Shane Kidwell, were checking the weather reports in their smartphones so their plans were subject to change.

"It's our first time here. It's a beautiful place and a family-oriented atmosphere," she said. Her husband heard about the event from a co-worker in Utica and decided to check it out.

They were looking forward to the fireworks and thought the karaoke contest slated for later in the day sounded like fun.

Dave Wilson of Centerburg said he has been coming to the celebration for about 43 years.

"I rode a pony in the parade when I was 5," he said.

He recalled that the festival had faded at one time, apparently as the Oldtime Farming Festival grew, and he was glad the July 4 observance came back. He also likes that the festival is the week before the Fourth, so that you can visit relatives, go to another celebration or just relax on the holiday.

And September's Old-time Farming Festival is a hybrid happening that's part street fair and part county fair.

It should be interesting to watch the evolution of Centerburg's population, demographics and housing market between now and the 2020 census. To check Centerburg out first-hand, just go anywhere in Ohio and head toward the middle. Visit www.centerburghoh.com for more information.



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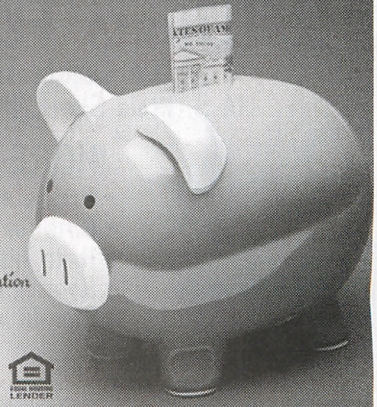


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FARMERS MARKETS

Knox County is full of quality merchants that carry produce, but when the temperatures get warmer and the flowers begin to bloom, consumers can't wait for Saturday mornings in downtown Mount Vernon.

From fresh off the farm or right from the garden, many goods and services can be purchased every Saturday morning, from May to October at Public Square in Knox County. Local vendors come together from around the county and sell at the Mount Vernon Farmers Market.

Those who grow fresh produce within a 25-mile radius of Mount Vernon's Public Square may bring their fresh produce, like corn, vegetables, melon, berries and fresh eggs to the stands to greet customers. Other items available range from local Ohio maple syrup, fresh and local honey, handmade crafts and more. Local businesses and organizations bring their goods and services to advertise at the Farmers Market as well.

Bethany Myers and her father Brian of Myers Farm in Mount Vernon said their mission is to provide "fresh and local produce to the community at a reasonable price." Myers Farm sells anything from eggplant to beans and summer and winter squash to tomatoes and green and yellow peppers. Brian also said that they've been selling at the farmer's market for eight to nine years regularly.

"We price our produce on what we think it's worth and the work that goes into it ... the early stuff is a little bit more because of the input costs are more," Brian said.

Jeff Gabric of Honey Bee Acres in Mount Vernon said his hobby is beekeeping. Gabric sells honey at the Farmers Market and sells when there is honey, which may not be every week.

"I have two hives in my backyard, and then 25 to 30 hives at three different remote areas locally," Gabric said.

Gabric said although there are price schedules that he pays attention to at a national level, that his honey is priced on supply and demand.

The Knox County Health Department holds its own Farmers Market throughout the summer outside and is located at 11660 Upper Gilchrist Road in Mount Vernon.

Local, farm fresh foods and home goods can be purchased year-round at the Harvest@TheWoodward, 107 S. Main St.,



in downtown Mount Vernon.

During the Dan Emmett Music & Arts Festival, the Aug. 15, Farmers Market will be held at the CA&C Depot in Mount Vernon, 501 S. Main St.

For more information on the Mount Vernon Farmers Market or any other information regarding local foods in Knox County, visit www.visitknoxohio.org.

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NEW TESTAMENT STONE GARDEN

700 MANSFIELD AVENUE, MOUNT VERNON

A solemn setting where one can pray, meditate or focus on their faith is found at the New Testament Stone Garden, located in the rear of Faith Lutheran Church, 170 Mansfield Ave., Mount Vernon.

Started in the late 1960s and dedicated in 1977, the New Testament Stone Garden takes visitors on a "walk of faith," where 14 individual stone arrangements portray a message from scripture, all in a theme of stones. The Garden was started from the inspiration of Lloyd and Martha Volk who had a vision of such a garden which could be enjoyed by the community.

The Stone Garden is located in a natural setting which can add to one's spiritual experience. The stones were carefully selected to symbolize each scripture passage. Many of the stones come from Ohio, ranging from 1 pound to 3,000 pounds. Among the types of stones used in the scenes are a stepping stone, a rejected stone, a loaf stone, living stones, a millstone and broken stone columns.

There are also message stones which help tell the story of Genesis 1:1 — "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth."

There is an outdoor chapel with an altar made of stone from Mount Carmel in Israel. Seats are arranged in the style of an amphitheater, allowing small groups to conduct services if they wish.

The New Testament Stone Garden is open to the public year-round. Tours can be arranged by calling 740-393-3666.



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HISTORICAL MUSEUM

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A step back in time to Knox County's days past is a chance any local historian won't want to miss. A grand opportunity for this awaits at the Knox County Historical Society Museum at 875 Harcourt Road, Mount Vernon.

The Museum is an expansive collection of historical artifacts from Knox County's past and is also somewhat of a tribute to the many people who helped shape the history of Knox County. Historical individuals featured in the museum's displays include women's suffrage leader and publisher Amelia Bloomer, Civil War-era politician Columbus Delano, Civil War nurse Mary Ann Bickerdyke, famed folk musician Daniel Decatur Emmett, and contemporary humorist and entertainer Paul Lynde.

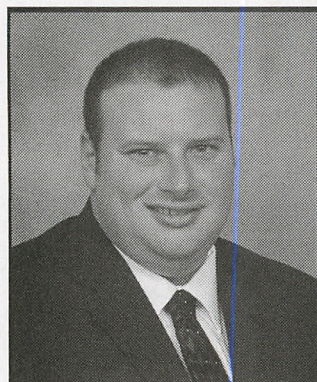
Knox County's industrial history is brought to life with exhibits describing the businesses of Cooper-Bessemer, Ariel Corp., Mount Vernon Bridge Co., Continental Can Co. and others.

Historical artifacts and interesting items from years past fill the museum from end to end. Farm equipment, tools, toys, household goods, maps and just about anything imaginable from decades ago conjure up memories for many or spark a curious interest for the young as well.

For the genealogy buffs, family roots can be traced in the museum's extensive collection of family records.

Additional historical insights can be gained at the society's various monthly programs. These cover an array of interesting topics and are conducted by guest speakers.

Hours for the Museum are 6-8 p.m. Wednesdays, and 2-4 p.m. Thursdays through Sundays from March through November. For more information on the Museum, contact Jim Gibson, museum director, at 393-5247.



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Knox County Historical Society Museum

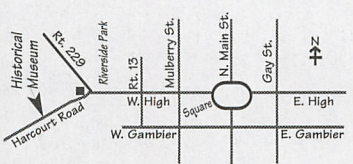


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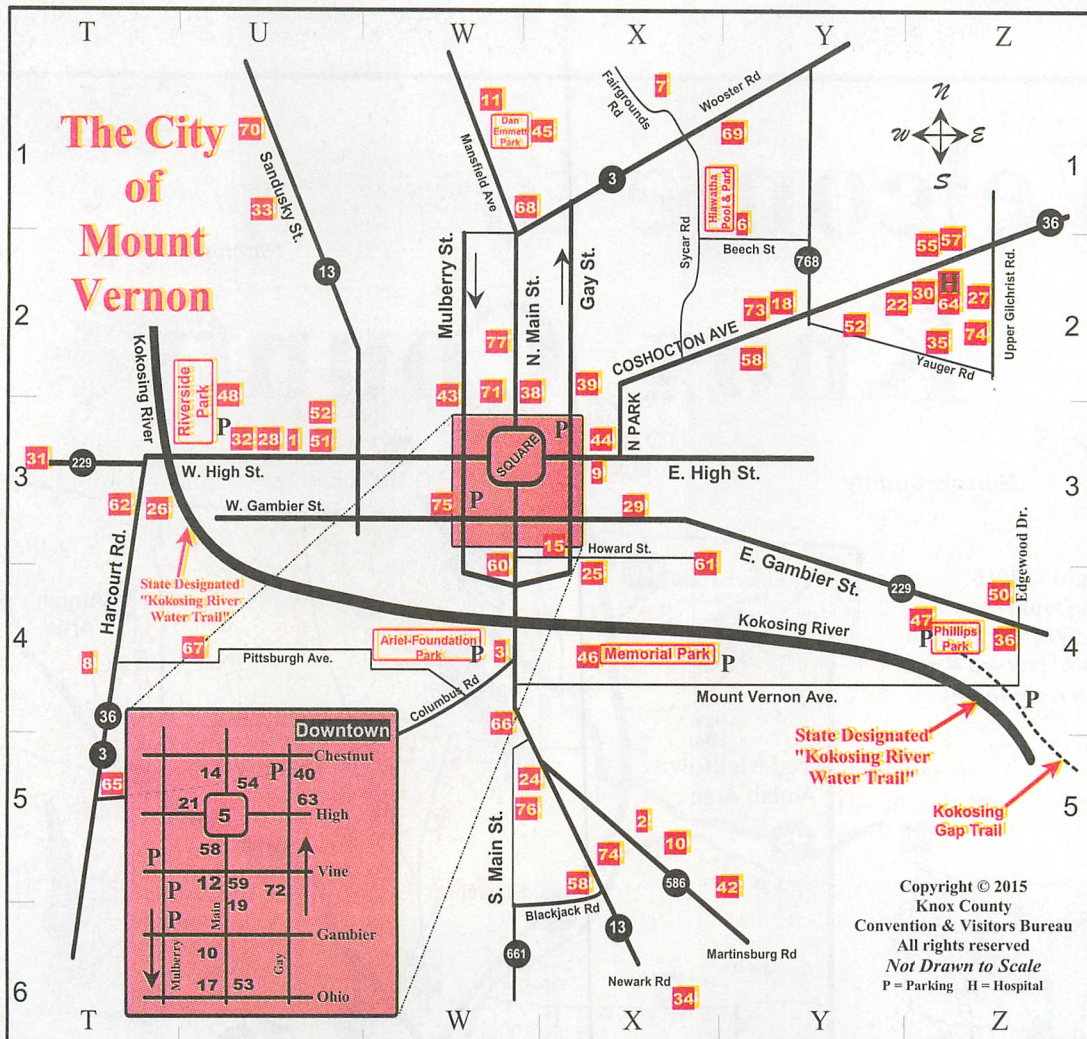


Wednesday
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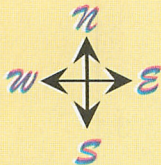
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Map Listings shown are advertisers in the Knox County Experience Guide, as well as many other area places of interest.

Welcome to Knox County



Morrow County

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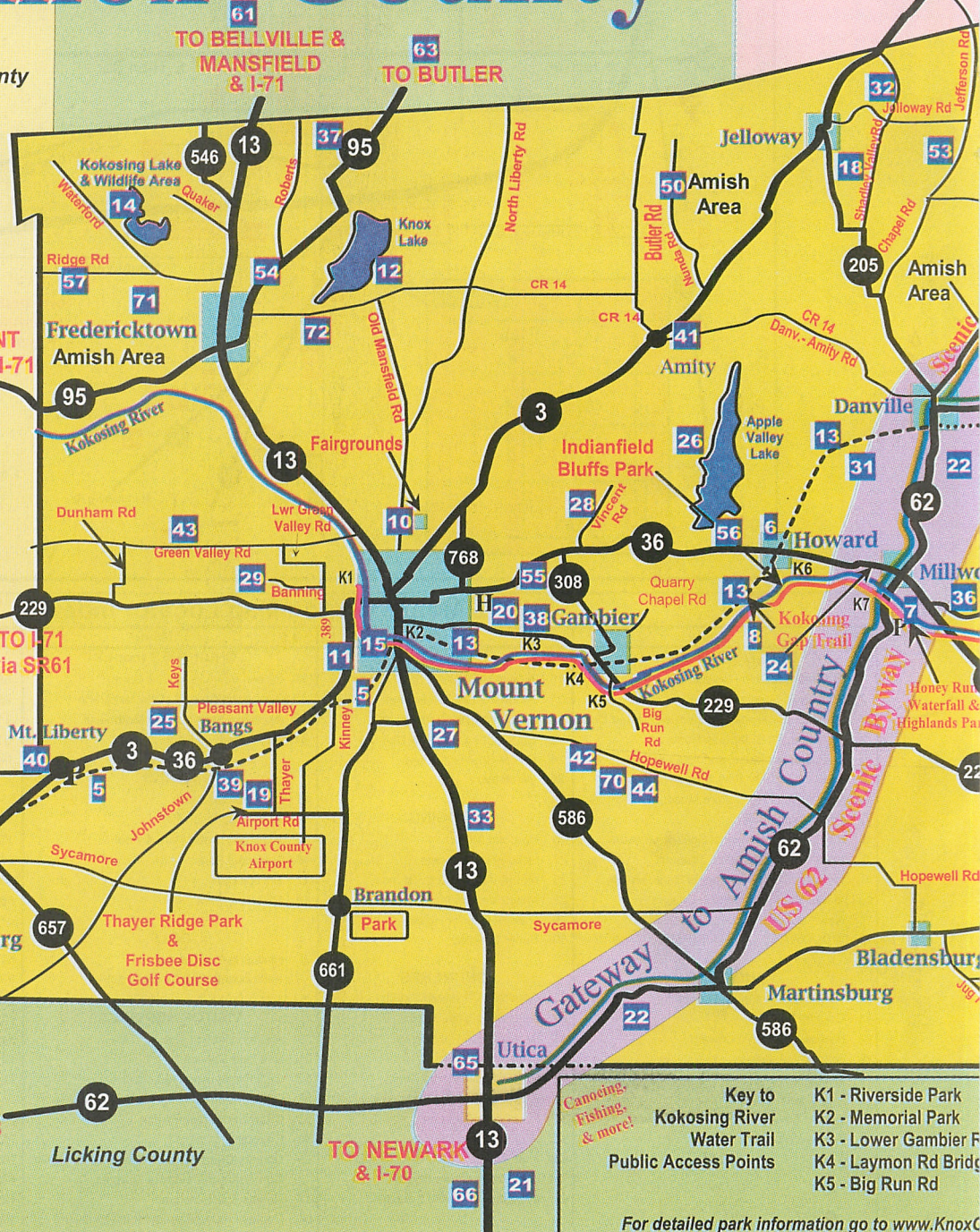
TO NEWARK
& I-70

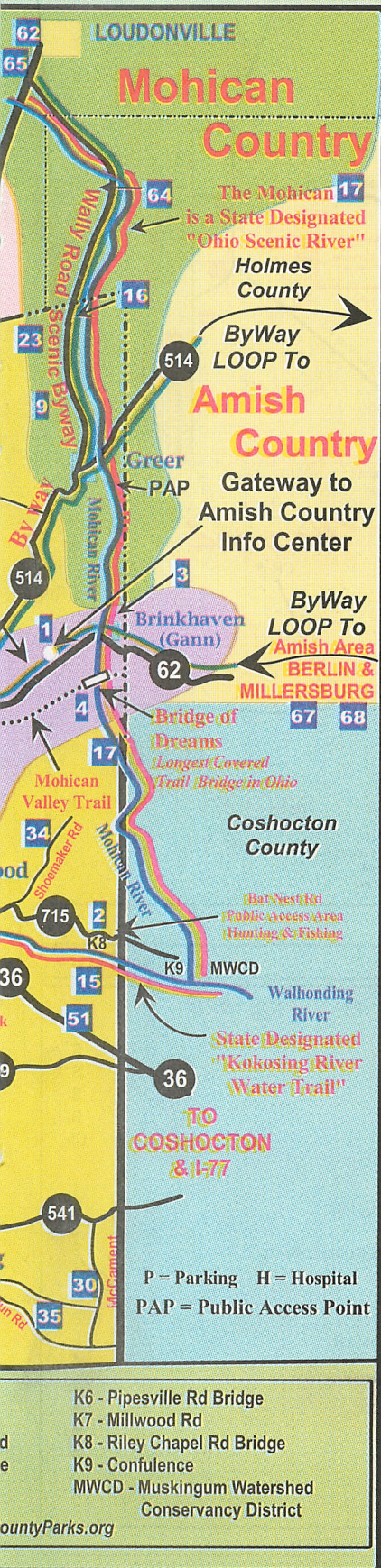
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Key to
Kokosing River
Water Trail
Public Access Points

K1 - Riverside Park
K2 - Memorial Park
K3 - Lower Gambier F
K4 - Laymon Rd Bridge
K5 - Big Run Rd

For detailed park information go to www.KnoxCountyOH.com





2015 County Map Index

Map #	Name	Type	Map #	Name	Type
1	Amish Gateway Info. Center	A	37	Ankenytown Grace Brethren Church	Ch
2	Bat Nest Road Area	A	38	Central Christian Church	Ch
3	Brinkhaven/ Union Twp. Park	A	39	The Church at Chapel Hill	Ch
4	Bridge of Dreams	A	40	Community Bible Church	Ch
5	Heart of Ohio Trail	A	71	Fredericktown Church of Christ	Ch
6	Hellbender Preserve	A	41	Grace Baptist Church	Ch
7	Honeyrun Highlands Park & Fall	A	42	Grace Community Church	Ch
8	Indianfield Bluffs Park	A	43	Green Valley United Methodist	Ch
9	Kenhurst	A	44	Hopewell United Methodist	Ch
10	Knox County Fair	A	72	Victory Church of Christ	Ch
10	Knox Co. Ag Museum	A			
11	Knox Co. Historical Museum	A	1	Country Furniture & Woodcraft	R
12	Knox Lake	A	50	Country Lane Bulk Store	R
13	Kokosing Gap Trail	A	51	Friendly Meadows Country Store	R
14	Kokosing Lake Wildlife Area	A	12	Grandpa's Tackle & Boat Rental	R
15	Kokosing River Water Trail	A	53	Valley ATV	R
16	Mohican Indian Pow Wow	A			
9	Mohican Bluegrass Festival	A	54	Dee-Jay's Butchering-Processing	S
17	Mohican Scenic River	A	55	Moore Auction & Realty	S
4	Mohican Valley Trail	A	56	Killbuck Savings Bank	S
70	Ohiolina Music Festival	A	57	Southside Furniture Mfg	S
18	Ramser Arboretum	A	38	Ohio Eastern Star	S
19	Thayer Ridge Park	A	38	Star Home Health Service	S
9	Tree Frog Canopy Tours	A	38	The Glenn A. Gallagher Centre	S
20	Wolf Run Regional Park	A			
21	Ye Olde Mill & Velvet Ice Cream	A			

2015 Out of County Map Index

Map #	Name	Type	Area
22	Gateway to Amish Country	SBW	
23	Wally Road	SBW	
24	Kokosing Valley Camp & Canoe	C + Ca	
16	Mohican Reservation	C + Ca	
9	Mohican Wilderness	C + Ca	
25	Rustic Knoll's Campground	C	
26	Apple Valley Golf Club	G	
26	Apple Valley Resort	L	
27	The Chaney Manor	L	
28	Cider House	L	
29	Felicia's Guest House	L	
30	Indian Bear Lodge & Cabins	L	
31	Kokosing River Outfitters	L	
16	Mohican Reservation	L	
9	Mohican Wilderness	L	
9	The Mohicans	L	
32	Morrows Lodge - Camp McPherson	L	
33	The Sanctuary at Wild Rose Acres	L	
34	Sunset Ridge Log Cabins	L	
35	Stahls Farm	L	
36	White Oak Inn	L	
61	Bellville Merchant's Co-op	A	Bellville
62	Loudonville Canoe Livery	A	Loudonville
61	Mansfield Fire Museum-Educational Center	A	Mansfield
63	Butler Mohican KOA Campground	C	Butler
62	River Run Campground & Canoe	C + Ca	Loudonville
64	Arrow Point Family Campground	C + Ca	Loudonville
64	Smith's Campground & Cabins	C	Loudonville
62	River Room Lounge	D	Loudonville
62	Mohican Little Brown Inn	L	Loudonville
64	Mohican River Inn	L	Loudonville
61	Mohican Country Market	R	Loudonville
61	Richardson's Greenhouse-Landscaping	R	Loudonville
65	CES Credit Union	S	Multiple
66	The Energy Cooperative	S	Newark
67	Killbuck Savings Bank Co.	S	Killbuck
61	Mohican - Loudonville Convention and Visitor's Bureau	S	Loudonville
68	Holmes County Tourism Bureau	S	Millersburg
69	Morrow Manor Nursing Center	S	Chesterville

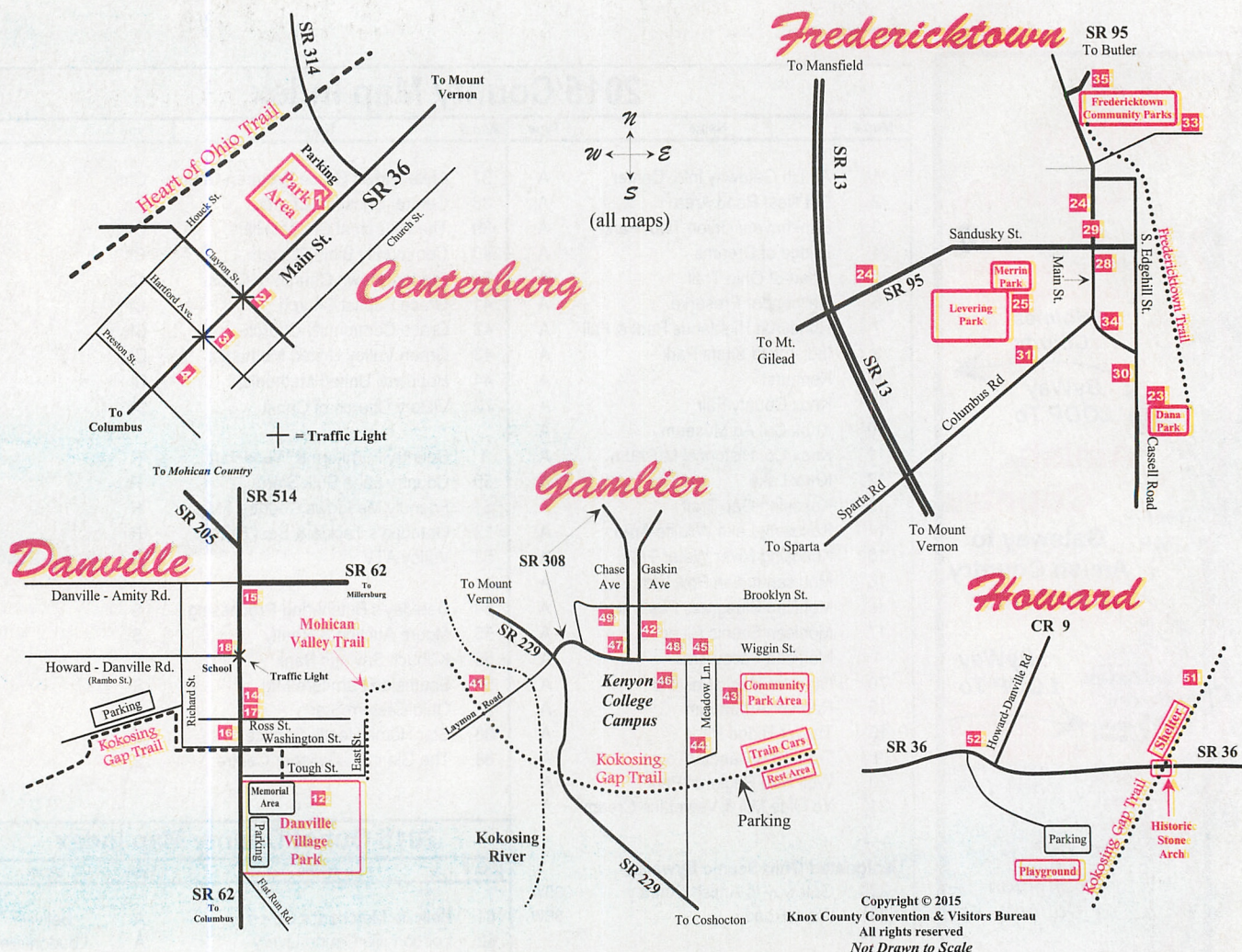
A=Attraction C=Camping Ca=Canoe Ch=Church D=Dining E=Event G=Golf L=Lodging

R=Retail S=Service SBW = Designated Ohio Scenic ByWay

See Mount Vernon and Village Maps for other locator indexes (pages 29 & 32)

Map Listings shown are advertisers in the Knox County Experience Guide, as well as many other area places of interest.

32 Knox County Experience Guide



2015 Village Map Index

Map #	Name	Village	Type	Map #	Name	Village	Type
1	Centerburg Community Memorial Park	C	A	12	Danville-Howard Turkey Festival	D	E
2	Centerburg Public Library & Local History Center	C	S	12	Danville Memorial Park	D	A
3	First Federal Savings and Loan Association	C	S	14	Danville Public Library	D	S
4	First-Knox National Bank	C	S	15	First-Knox National Bank	D	S
1	Oldtime Farming Festival	C	E	16	Killbuck Savings Bank Co.	D	S
				17	Millers True Value Hardware	D	S
				18	St. Luke Catholic Church	D	Ch
23	Dana Park	F	A				
24	First-Knox National Bank (2 locations)	F	S	41	Brown Family Environmental Center	G	A
25	Fredericktown Community Library	F	S	42	First-Knox National Bank	G	S
28	Fredericktown Historical Museum	F	A	43	Gambier Community Center & Public Library	G	S
29	Fredericktown Tomato Show	F	E	43	Gambier Community Park	G	A
31	Fredericktown United Methodist Church	F	Ch	44	Gambier Craft Sale	G	E
25	Levering Park	F	A	42	Gambier Deli	G	D
25	Merrin Park	F	A	45	Gambier House Bed and Breakfast	G	L
33	Mill Street Community Park	F	A	44	Kenyon Athletic Facility	G	A
34	Pizza Dock	F	D	46	Kenyon College	G	A
35	Sockman Lake Park Area	F	A	42	Kenyon College Bookstore	G	R
				47	Kenyon Inn & Restaurant	G	L + D
51	Hellbender Preserve	H	A	48	Peoples Bank	G	S
52	Howard Hilton	H	D	42	Village Market	G	R
				49	Weather Vane in Gambier	G	R

A=Attraction Ch=Church D=Dining E=Event G=Golf L=Lodging R=Retail S=Service

See Knox County and Mount Vernon Maps for other locator indexes (pages 29-31)

Map Listings shown are advertisers in the Knox County Experience Guide, as well as many other area places of interest.

AGRICULTURE MUSEUM

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Recognizing agriculture as the longtime backbone of Knox County's economy is the focus of those who operate the Knox County Agricultural Museum. Located on the Knox County Fairgrounds, the Museum currently houses more than 5,000 items in more than 20,000 square feet of space.

The Museum was opened in 1984, organized by a committee and made possible by generous donations from many residents in the community. Since its opening, additional space has been realized many times with additions being made to the building with 4,000-square feet in 1986, 3,200-square feet in 1990, 5,000-square feet in 1997 and 2,800-square feet in 2008.

Farm equipment from the past 200 years fills every corner of the main showroom including combines, hay rakes, a school bus, tractors, a Conestoga wagon, and just about any farm tool or piece of agricultural equipment imaginable.

There's also a loom room where workable looms weave rugs, mats, runners and other items, completed by the museum's members.

One can also visit a spring house, log house, an outhouse and an old school house located just outside the main museum. Genealogy buffs can also search their family tree in the museum's library full of Knox County family history.

The Museum is open throughout the Knox County Fair,

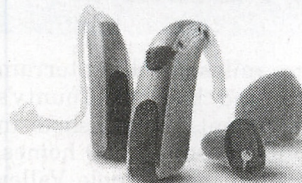


always the last full week in July, and from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the third Saturday of the summer months. It is an annually featured stop on the Heart of Ohio Tour in October. Additional tours can be arranged through reservations. All areas are handicap accessible. For more information or tours, call coordinator Don Hawk at 740-599-6416.



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Ted and Ann Schnormeier of Gambier open their private gardens once a year for garden lovers to explore. The 2015 Schnormeier Gardens Open House will be held Thursday through Sunday, June 4-7, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Schnormeier Gardens, 8701 Laymon Road, has 75 acres of exquisite gardens, with an Asian flair, featuring boulders, stone walls, waterfalls, sculptures, structures and lakes. Other features include a Japanese teahouse, garden house, Chinese pavilion and arched bridge. A main point of the Gardens is a Frank Lloyd Wright-inspired home, designed by the Schnormeier's. The private residence was completed in 1994, but unfortunately, the interior of the home is not for public view.

Reservations are not required, however, advance notice of groups arriving by bus would be appreciated. Tours are self-guided, but volunteers can be found throughout the tour for assistance. The property is hilly, and there are no paved or designated pathways, so visitors are encouraged to dress comfortably and to wear walking shoes. The Welcome Center features a DVD presentation, photographs of the Gardens, and full-color tour brochures with a map. Free parking and restrooms available.

To reach Schnormeier Gardens from Mount Vernon, go



east on Ohio 229 to Laymon Road. Turn right on Laymon and proceed for about 1 and 1/2 miles. The Gardens are on the right.

APPLE VALLEY

Apple Valley occupies six square miles of rolling terrain in Brown and Howard townships, and is Knox County's largest private residential development. Established in 1972, it has gradually built up to its present 2,600 homes, and there's room for several thousand more. Apple Valley Lake is the community's most prominent feature and valuable asset. Its deep, placid waters are fed by Little Jelloway Creek, and provide 511 acres of recreational opportunity to members of the Apple Valley Property Owners Association (AVPOA).

With nine miles of shoreline, the lake is surrounded by prime lakefront and lakeview lots. A lap around Apple Valley Drive covers 10 miles, and in all there are 56 miles of roads. Common areas include a clubhouse, three beaches and a fishing lake with playgrounds, a marina, boat launches, Apple Valley Golf Course, two pools, Floral Valley Community Center and Campers Village.

AVPOA is governed by directors elected by property owners, and managed by a professional staff. Restrictive Covenants and Bylaws apply to all properties, and annual assessments (currently \$205 per lot) represent the association's largest revenue source.

More than 20 clubs bring like-minded residents together for recreation, performance arts, tourism, arts and crafts and various sports. Seasonal activities include Fourth of July festivities and fireworks, several special events for kids, and community-wide garage sales over the Memorial Day weekend.



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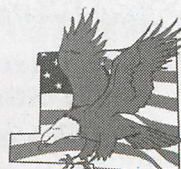
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DANVILLE

Located in the northeast corner of Knox County, Danville is a thriving community of more than 1,000 residents.

The roots of the village run deep. Danville celebrated its 200th birthday in 2013. The original Danville village was laid out by George Sapp Sr. and Robert Waddell in 1813. It later merged with two other small villages — Rossville and Buckeye City — to create the small-town as it is seen today.

It is also home to the second oldest Catholic parish in Ohio — St. Luke Catholic Church. The church on the corner of Market and Rambo streets was founded in 1820 and continues to have a strong presence in the village. Many activities are held throughout the year at the St. Luke Community Center.

Today, the village is known as “The Gateway to Amish Country,” for its down-home, small-town atmosphere and for being at the trailhead of two area biking/walking trails. Both the Kokosing Gap Trail, which runs to Mount Vernon, and the Mohican Valley Trail, which runs to Brinkhaven, begin in Danville. The Mohican Valley Trail is one of very few trails open to horse riders.

Danville is also very close to camping and canoeing in Mohican Country and Wally Road, as well as Honey Run Waterfall.

There are plenty of shops and places to eat in Danville. Places like The Hangout, McFadden’s Hot Spot and Route 62 Drive-In all serve up a delicious meal for residents and visitors alike.

The village also holds the annual Danville-Howard Turkey Festival each year in June at the Danville Community Park. The four-day festival offers games, rides, contests, food and plenty of good music.

Danville is home to one of the more original events in Ohio — the Lions Club Raccoon Dinner. The event began over 70 years ago and draws in a crowd from all over the state. It is not unusual to find guests from all over the world, as well. More than 600 pounds of raccoon is served each year and a guest speaker entertains the audience following the dinner.

The community park is busy nearly year-round, as the shelter houses picnics for families of all sizes and a game can usually be found on the basketball courts. Besides the

Festival, the park hosts the Memorial Day celebrations, baseball games, and football games on Friday nights in the fall.

Whether your interests are camping and nature activities, hiking and biking, sightseeing on your way to Amish Country, or visiting interesting Ohio festivals each summer, Danville has much to offer visitors.



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RACCOON DINNER

DANVILLE

For the past 70 years, the Danville Lions Club has been serving up heaping helpings of raccoon. From its humble, hometown beginnings in the early 1940s Danville Lions Club has held its fundraising event in Danville, which brings in hungry visitors from around the country and around the globe each and every year.

Each year it seems like another record is shattered from the number of people in attendance to the pounds of raccoon that the cooks prepare.

Community members help to serve the wild cuisine to visitors who travel miles and miles for one legendary dinner. Following the dinner every year there is a featured speaker, from legends such as Woody Hayes to last year's speaker, five-time world weightlifting champion Rick Metzger.

In addition to the dinner there is always featured entertainment, such as the local Danville High School Jazz Band at Danville High School. Awards and recognition are mentioned for the youngest and oldest in attendance, who traveled the farthest in distance, along with special awards and scholarships from the Danville Lions Club organization.

Gary Helbert and Terry McGinnis of Haysville have traveled to Danville for the Raccoon Dinner for 25 years and said that the event was the only place the friends could find raccoon, since their local restaurants "didn't have it on the menu." During the 2014 event, they said that no matter the weather, they've made it back every year since 1990.

Hunting buddies Carl Looney of Butler and Ralph Adams said they came to Danville to share in memories, friendship and to taste raccoon. Looney, formerly of Knox County, said he has been coming to the dinner since he was still in school, when they were still held in the storehouse. Looney said he was present when Woody Hayes spoke and "you couldn't find a seat. It was crowded."

According to Sandy Crow, president of the Danville Lion's Club, there were an estimated 600 or more people who came through the doors of St. Luke Community Center in 2014 to feast on the featured cuisine. Crow also said that people had been coming through the doors since 4:30 p.m. and they had almost ran out of food around 7:30.

No matter where you're from, who you are or what you're about, all are welcome at the historic raccoon dinner, which



brings family, friends and community together — anyone who visits the dinner leaves as a member of the family.

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AMISH COUNTRY

Nowhere in the American experience is cultural diversity more apparent than in the shopping center parking lots of east-central Ohio. Here, scenes that elicit doubletakes elsewhere are repeated six days a week and considered quite unremarkable. Parked alongside vehicles powered by gasoline, diesel, natural gas and electricity, are spartan buggies with, quite literally, one horsepower. This is Amish country and Knox County is its Gateway.

US Highway 62 from Utica, through Danville, and on to Brinkhaven and Holmes County, is the Gateway to Amish Country Scenic Byway. The Amish are approaching a majority in Holmes County, but while it is undeniably their community's Ohio epicenter, more than 40,000 Amish are widely spread through about a quarter of Ohio's 88 counties. On a given day, you're likely to encounter buggies on northeast Knox County roads. Just don't expect them shopping on Sunday. The Amish reserve the Sabbath for home worship services, rest, and social gatherings.

Time travelers from colonial days would marvel at changes of the past 300 years, and perhaps at the news that Amish folks have kept a foot in the 18th century. Like many settlers, the Amish braved treacherous ocean crossings to escape persecution, and now enjoy the freedom of religious expression for which their ancestors yearned. What sets the Amish apart is that they don't equate change with progress. They have chosen a simple way of life with carefully guarded beliefs and traditions, but it's only true in a general sense that the Amish shun all technology. They have no centralized hierarchy, and practices vary among orders. It can safely be said, however, that a liberal Amish lifestyle is very conservative compared to society at large.

It's one thing to view progress skeptically, and quite another to coexist with people to whom 250 television channels are thought to be a necessity. In practice, most Amish interact comfortably with "English" neighbors and cope well with "progress" they may not embrace.

Farming was once the occupation of most Amish, but competition from large farms and high land prices have forced many into different work. Many consumers say that's a good

Continued on Page 40



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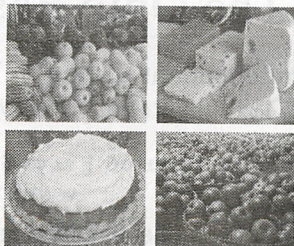
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It's almost like having a farmers market available every day.

The Ohio State University Extension and Local Foods Council recognized a need to have a shop that featured local foods. The Woodward Development Corp. initiated that idea and created TheHarvest@TheWoodward to provide local farmers and gardeners a sales outlet for their products through the week. It's open Monday through Saturday all yearlong.

More vendors have been added in the past year, said Manager Clint LeVan. Like the existing vendors, most are from Knox County.

They include Gathered Family, offering beef, chicken and, by the end of October, pork; and Maria's Fresh Pasta of Columbus. They've added Maple Creme from Butcher's Family Maple and they have produce year-round from Our Garden.

Besides taking advantage of Knox County's rich agricultural heritage, the store also strives every day to bring in foods that are a healthier alternative. These foods are chemical free, contain no monosodium glutamate and use all-natural ingredients. The Harvest tries to stay away from food items from genetically modified organisms and there is a strict rule that all products must come from natural grass-fed animals.

Inventory varies according to the season and is always changing, but shoppers can call ahead, check Facebook or subscribe to The Harvest newsletter to stay on top of what is available.

In addition to whatever fruits and vegetables are in season, the Harvest has milk, goat's milk, cheese, eggs and yogurt. Meats include beef, chicken, lamb, pork, veal and goat. Goose and duck are also offered in season.

Baked goods include bread, granola, cookies and cakes. There are also items like noodles, relish, jams, jellies, syrups, candy, goat milk fudge, pickles, lard, butters, dip mixes and chips, all natural and mostly locally grown and processed. Also featured are artisan jams and jellies, relish and mustard that tempt the taste buds, while a variety of all-natural teas and seasonings, honey, applesauce and other sauces to add just the right touch to a meal.



To satisfy a sweet tooth, the Harvest also offers Harry London and Waggoner Chocolates.

To further pamper yourself, check out the Shoppe's specialized soaps, body and face scrubs and lip balm.

You can buy CDs by local musicians and a variety of home decor items, including Willow figurines, gourd creations, Bearington Bear collectibles, Root and Cake candles in a variety of delicate scents, from lilac to apple pie, plus hand-crafted rugs, jewelry and other gifts.

The Harvest also has Dan Emmett Music & Arts Festival and other T-shirts, and carries Ohio State Buckeye items, including gift bags, stickers, wall hangings, magnets and more. To help with your visit to the area, The Shoppe carries many guidebooks and pamphlets, all free for the taking.

Hours for TheHarvest@TheWoodward are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays. Closed Sundays. For more information, call 740-392-6142 or email cleavan@historicknoxohio.org.



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GOLF

Knox Countians and visitors alike will find some of the finest golf courses in the area right here in Knox County.

Apple Valley Golf Course is consistently named one of the top 25 courses to play in Ohio. The Course is located in the Apple Valley, just off U.S. 36. It offers golfers of all skill levels a challenging, yet fair, test.

The 18-hole course was designed by William Newcomb and John Robinson in 1972. It can measure nearly 7,000 yards, but five sets of tees give golfers of all levels a chance to be successful. There are several holes surrounded by trees, and some of the nicest greens around to make this an enjoyable round for all.

Besides the beautiful course, there's a driving range and clubhouse large enough to host corporate outings. A banquet room seats up to 120 people, and a loaded snack bar to allow golfers to fill up before, during and after the round. There's also a pro shop, which offers everything for the golfer — from golf balls and tees to a wide selection of apparel and clubs.

Apple Valley Golf Course has been the home of the Ohio Public Links Championship and also hosts tournaments for college and high school players.

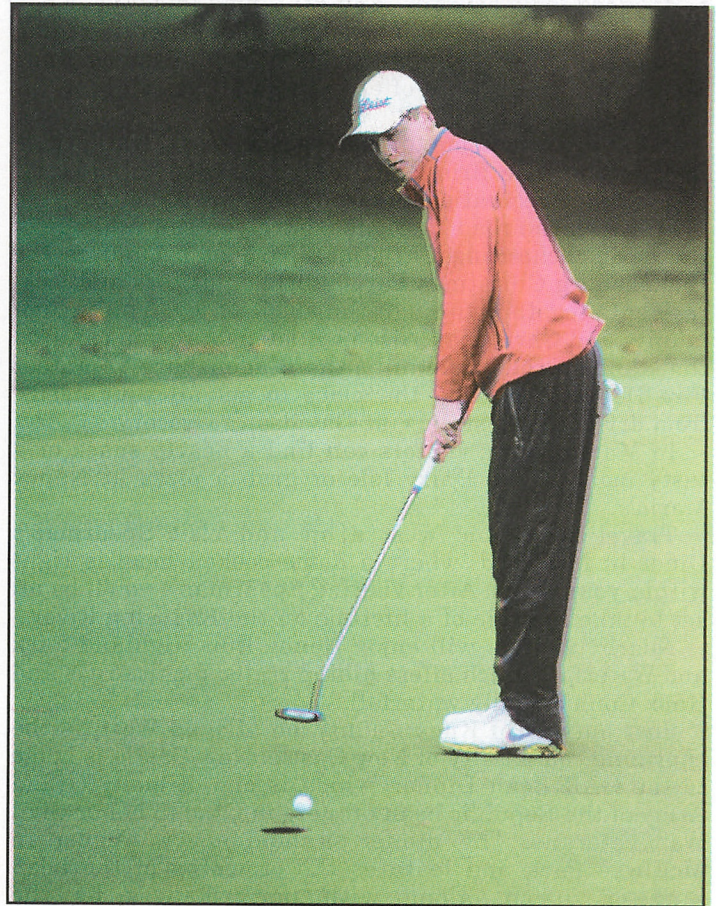
There's also a Stay and Play package available, where golfers can stay at the Apple Valley Resort, which is across the parking lot from the Course.

Apple Valley Golf Course is located at 433 Clubhouse Drive, Howard, OH 43028. Tee times can be made online at www.applevalleygolfcourse.com or by calling 866-277-5342.

Hiawatha Golf Course is located on the north side of Mount Vernon. It is a tournament tested track as several state, regional and high school tournaments are played there.

The challenging 18-hole course was designed by Jack Kidwell and has been welcoming golfers since 1962. A creek meanders its way through the course, along with several small lakes to create a challenging course through the gently rolling hills. Mature trees and undulating greens add another challenge.

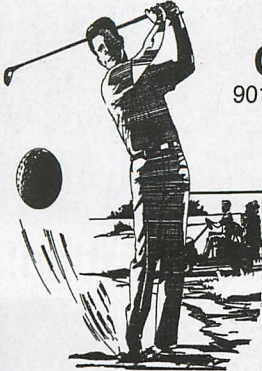
Hiawatha measures 6,721 yards from the back tees, but golfers of all skill levels can enjoy playing from one of four sets of tees.



A shelter house seats 150 people, making it a great place for an outing. A well-stocked kitchen provides great meals for breakfast, lunch or dinner.

Hiawatha Golf Course is located at 901 Beech St., Mount Vernon, OH 43050. For more information or to make a tee time, call 740-393-2886 or visit www.hiawathagolf.com.

For a complete listing of golf courses, see www.VisitKnoxOhio.org.





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EASTERN KNOX COUNTY

A more adventurous and untamed side of Knox County can be found on its eastern side. From its raging rustic river to the calming fields of gold, eastern Knox County has the best to offer from small yet vibrant villages with deep roots.

Brinkhaven is home to the largest covered trail bridge in the state. The Bridge of Dreams is open to make all your outside recreational activity dreams come true.

On down the road to Bladensburg you can find one of the most enchanting Christmas parades around as the Bladensburg Christmas Parade brings visitors and local residents together through the spirit of joy, family, community and Christmas. Also in Bladensburg you can find the staple of the community, the Bladensburg Volunteer Fire Department, and the place to get all your needs, from dry goods to sweets, at Davidson's Grocery.

In Martinsburg, visitors can find a hearty snack or a tasty meal at the Dairy Isle or grab a pizza at Nancy Maria's.

Travel north and west a bit and visit Spearman's Diner in Millwood, where a home cooked meal is right within your reach. After visiting Spearman's you'll be all set to take the ride of a lifetime on the Kokosing River.

Nearby visitors will enjoy Honey Run Highland Park and Waterfall which offers hiking trails, picnic areas and Knox County's only waterfall.

Just outside of Knox County, on U.S. 36 West, is the charming community of New Castle. New Castle is home to the GAR Bean Dinner, which is one of many Grand Army of the Republic bean dinners in Ohio to honor Civil War veterans. The dinner is held every August in McElwee Park and features the crowning of the bean king or queen, along with performances by the Walhonding Rube Band.

Amish


Continued from Page 37

thing. The Amish have gravitated to building trades and produce an array of products, ranging from buggies to furniture, cheese to produce and quilts to leather goods. Their wares are found in retail stores, at farmers markets and at roadside stands, and to many shoppers "Amish" is an adjective meaning quality.

Right next door in Holmes County, US 62 and all state routes are designated Amish Byways. Berlin, Sugar Creek and Charm are just a few of many prime spots to encounter Ohio's Amish heritage. Some Old Order members avoid outside contacts, but most Amish welcome conversation (English or Pennsylvania Dutch will do), and many enjoy opportunities to dispel misconceptions about their Christian beliefs and way of life.

Amish country day trips are popular for good reason. Inns and bed-and-breakfast establishments are available if you linger. There's something to say for random wandering, but tourist maps identify highlights that would be a shame to miss.




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The SPI (Science Play-Space Initiative) Spot, located at 227 S. Main St., Mount Vernon, provides a place for children to "Explore, Discover and Imagine."

The local nonprofit play space began in February 2011 and offers children of all ages a chance to fuel their curiosity in science, technology and the natural world.

SPI Spot hopes to develop natural curiosity in children, develop the economic and intellectual potential of the community, develop confidence in problem-solving ability and application through play, and increase awareness of local engagement in science and technology. The place offers preschool weekly activities, Saturday workshops, SPI at the Summer Parks Program, summer camps, spring break activities, field trips and special events.

Activities are available for all ages and include Magnatiles, Legos (big and small), architectural and other blocks, gears, physics fiddle toys, fossils, play dough, water play, lots of educational toys, puzzles, Periodic table cards, an electricity (circuits) building station, and marble mazes.

SPI Spot regular hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m.; and Saturdays, from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Admission is \$5 per family per visit or \$10 per family per month, or \$100 per family per year. For more information, call 740-501-7616, visit www.SPISPOT.org, or email SPICconnection@gmail.com.



ARTS & HANDMADE CRAFTS

Visit any community festival in Knox County, the Dan Emmett Music & Arts Festival or the county fair and arts and craft vendors will be found playing a big role in the activities.

The Knox County Fair, held during the last full week in July, features categories for all kinds of crafts to be shared and artists submit entries to compete for the best pieces in everything from photography to painting.

A couple of weeks later, the Dan Emmett Music & Arts Festival draws artisans and crafters to set up their booths on South Main Street. The Knox County Quilt Show is held during the Festival. The annual event gives local quilters the opportunity to share their beautiful antique quilts, wall hangings and more.

The Christmas season is another popular time for craft fairs and a major one is the annual Gambier Craft Sale in December. Held in the Kenyon Athletic Center, the arts fair features unique handcrafted items such as pottery, weavings, quilts, jewelry and tin and wood crafts.

The Paw Patch Quilt Shop is a stop along the annual Amish Quilt Shop Hop, in which various locations throughout the area are selected to serve as stops, opening the door to new ideas in the quilting world. To learn more about the 2015 stops, visit www.amishquiltshophop.com.

Galleries around the county are open to view everything from

local art to college and university art. The Schnormeier Gallery, 221 S. Main St. in Mount Vernon is a part of Mount Vernon Nazarene University and for the 2015 schedule visit www.mvnu.edu/art-design/art-gallery/schnormeier.asp. Over at Kenyon College, the Gund Gallery is located along Middle Path at 101 1/2 College Drive, Gambier, and is open to both students and community members. For more information, visit www.the-gundgallery.org.

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MOHICAN COUNTRY

NORTHEASTERN KNOX COUNTY

Mohican Country, an area that includes northeastern Knox County and parts of Ashland and Holmes counties, is a place where Indian lore, the pioneer spirit, scenic waterways, rugged forests and railroading history merge into what is arguably Ohio's largest outdoor recreation complex.

Named for the Mohicans, a Native American tribe related to the Delaware, and originally located in New York, Connecticut and southeastern Pennsylvania, the Mohican River seems to have no other connection to the tribe other than the Delaware were one of the tribes most likely to be found there when Ohio was first settled by Europeans. Also common in the area were the Shawnee and Wyandot.

Today, however, Mohican Country is a mix of packaged commercial fun and natural attractions, centered heavily on spring, summer and autumn. Wally Road is the center of Mohican Country in Knox County.

Wally Road takes its name from the Walhonding Railroad — nicknamed "The Wally" — that once followed that route on part of its 45-mile route between Loudonville and Coshocton, carrying both freight and passengers. The railroad's time ended in the 1930s when the Mohawk Dam was erected on the Mohican River in Coshocton County, part of the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District Program, to control flooding in the Muskingum River basin. Some of the old stone bridge abutments from the railroad can still be seen from Wally Road.

The Road follows the right of way of the old Walhonding Valley Railroad, meandering along the Mohican River through pieces of Ashland, Holmes and Knox counties.

The 10 miles of Wally Road between Greer on Ohio 514 and Ohio 3 south of Loudonville, is lined with campgrounds, resorts and canoe liveries. There are close to 2,000 campsites in the area, catering to tent campers, lavish RVs and everything in-between. There are rustic cabins, bed-and-breakfasts, motels and even treehouses.

Wally Road is a great place to start your visit to Mohican Country and whether your visit is for an afternoon or a long weekend, boredom is not an option.

Mohican Bluegrass Festival at Mohican Wilderness. Visitors can buy daily tickets or camp for the weekend.



If you want a different way to see the country, Tree Frog Canopy Tours zipline is located off Wally Road on Vess Road about a mile from Greer. Also on Vess Road is The Mohicans, home to luxury cabins to stay in, the Grand Barn Event Center and also two unique tree houses that were featured on Animal Planet.

Campgrounds and canoe liveries abound through the valley. The Mohican itself is known as providing excellent smallmouth bass fishing, and is a popular place for rafting and kayaking, as well as canoeing.

If you don't have your own canoe or kayak, you can rent one at River Run Campground and Canoe Livery or the **Loudonville Canoe Livery**. The river is a scenic spot for canoeing and kayaking, and also provides some excellent fishing opportunities all the way to its confluence with the Kokosing River at Walhonding to form the Walhonding River.

Campgrounds and other accommodations include **River Run Campground, Mohican Little Brown Inn, Arrow Point Family Campground, Mohican River Inn, Smith Campground & Cabins, Wally World Riverside**

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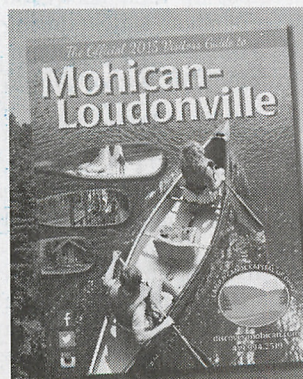
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MOHICAN COUNTRY

NORTHEASTERN KNOX COUNTY

Resort, Mohican Reservation and Mohican Wilderness.

Mohican Wilderness and the Wolf Creek/Pine Run Grist Mill feature authentic and reconstructed pioneer buildings and villages. The former offers Kenhurst Village and the latter a working old-time mill.

Festivals and gatherings dot the calendar. Fourth of July celebrations highlight every summer, while the Mohican Winterfest falls in January and the Maple Syrup Family Festival in March.

Mohican Wilderness on Wally Road is a major camping attraction, boasting hundreds of campsites and a large complex featuring a nature center, craft center, game room, amphitheater and numerous sporting activities. Hiking and bridal trails are found nearby and there are convenient locations for launching canoes and kayaks on the Mohican River. Mohican Wilderness hosts a popular Bluegrass Festival in mid-September which includes nationally-known bands and musicians.

Mohican Reservation hosts the Great Mohican Pow-Wow each July and September. These events pay homage to the Native Americans and allows visitors the opportunity to experience the stories, songs and culture of the American Indians.

Information stations are located near each end of the road. In addition to the campgrounds and liveries, there are horse trails, hiking trails, bike trails and bird watching available, as well as two covered bridges and a gristmill to see.

One 40-room hotel and event center, the **Mohican River Inn**, is located midway along the road. Others can be found at Loudonville. The **River Room Lounge** offers an opportunity to take shelter from the sun or enjoy conversation with friends and family, live music, food and drinks.



For those in need of groceries or supply, be sure to check out **Mohican Country Market**.

And that's not all. Within a short drive you'll find Mohican State Park and Forest, Malabar Farm State Park, Pleasant Hill Lake (another Muskingum Watershed facility) and, of course, at the center of it all is the Mohican River, which was designated an Ohio Scenic River in 2006 and in 2012 was designated an Ohio Water Trail.

Malabar Farm was the home of author Louis Bromfield and the scene of the wedding of Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall.

Prairie Peddler Festivals take place in September and the Loudonville Street Fair is in October.

The Clear Fork of the Mohican is also known for offering some trout fishing opportunities.

Up-to-date information on Mohican Country Happenings is available online at www.DiscoverMohican.com. Websites for any of the individual resorts are easily found using an Internet search engine.



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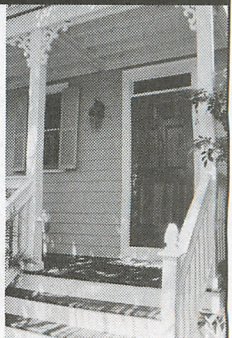
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COMMUNITY FESTIVALS

MOUNT VERNON • DANVILLE • CENTERBURG • FREDERICKTOWN • UTICA

Knox County entertainment blankets the calendar, but its six largest happenings are packed into spring and summer. First comes the Utica Sertoma Ice Cream Festival in May, and Centerburg's Oldtime Farming Festival closes the local festival season in September. In between, folks gather for the Danville-Howard Turkey Festival, Heart of Ohio USA Days, Knox County Fair, the Dan Emmett Music & Arts Festival and the Fredericktown Tomato Show. There's no telling how many funnel cakes, pork chops and lemon shake-ups are consumed, but enough calories are involved to power a good-sized town.

Traditional festivals embrace an "if it ain't broke don't fix it" philosophy. The Utica Sertoma Ice Cream Festival is a case in point. It revolves around the Velvet Ice Cream Co., which begins its second century of sugar overload this year. The Festival's May 23-25 run will feature arts and crafts, a colorful parade, live entertainment, classic wheels, tests of vital skills like seed spitting, and crowning of Little Miss Ice Cream.

The Danville-Howard Turkey Festival runs Wednesday through Saturday before Fathers Day (June 17-20), and takes fun seriously. A charity auction generates big sales, and there's an array of vendors, crafts, games, music and a parade.

The first of two Centerburg festivals in 2015 will be the June 24-27 Heart of Ohio USA Days. It's a popular prequel to July 4 that's loaded with food, crafts, music, games and rides. Big-name entertainers and fireworks cap things off.

The granddaddy of local happenings is the Knox County Fair. It expanded by a day in 2014, and if that eight-day format is maintained the Fair will run from July 19-26. For exhibitors young and old, the Fair creates an opportunity to showcase agriculture skills. For others, it's all about food, rides and carnival games. There's also harness racing, motorsports, live entertainment and more. The Fair has operated since 1849. *See Page 48 for more details.*

Composer and minstrel Dan Emmett was 34 when the county fair debuted. He died in 1904 at age 88, but the native son lives on thanks to Mount Vernon's Dan Emmett Music & Arts Festival. The Aug. 13-16 festival will feature a

juried art show, craft show, diverse musical talent, classic vehicles, kids' activities, and ample food and beverages.

Silly and sub-lime coexist at the Fredericktown Tomato Show, held Wednesday

through Saturday following Labor Day. Where else can you choose between a discussion of the First Amendment and bathtub races? Village streets are transformed into a carnival as folks share one of summer's last gasps.

Closer still to fall harvest is Centerburg's Oldtime Farming Festival, scheduled Sept. 19-20. It has the feel of a small town bazaar, but with agricultural flavor more akin to a county fair. There's spirited competition among green thumbs for everything from the tallest sunflower to the fattest pumpkin. Those interested in vintage machinery enjoy a huge tractor display, and all of the expected amenities of a local festival are there to enjoy.



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Whether you like primitive camping, with just a tent and a campfire, use an RV with all the modern conveniences, or prefer a quiet cabin in the woods, you can find a campground that meets your needs in the Knox County area.

Rustic Knolls Campground at 8664 Keys Road (west of Bangs off Ohio 3/U.S. 36) is only 10 miles from Mount Vernon and has been a site for fine family camping for 45 years. You can fish, swim, hike or just relax in your favorite lawn chair.

Rustic Knolls features 150 camping sites, 109 of which are seasonal. Fishing and swimming lakes are located on opposite sides of the campground and you can enjoy volleyball and basketball, horseshoes and corn hole. There's a game room and playground available, along with a covered picnic shelter. Wi-Fi is available to keep you connected online.

Modern restrooms along with a laundry facility are onsite and firewood and a propane exchange are for sale.

Fish, swim, hike, or just sit back and relax and enjoy the beautiful green valley.

For complete information, visit www.rusticknollscampground.com.

East of Mount Vernon, on the scenic Kokosing River near Millwood, is **Kokosing Valley Camp and Canoe**, a family-operated campground and canoe livery in one location at 25860 Coshocton Road.

The Kokosing River was the state's first designated Scenic River and it was recently designated as the first Ohio Water Trail.

Kokosing Valley is the largest campground and only canoe livery on the river.

The campground accommodate tents, campers or motor homes. It offers up to 30-amp electrical service and water hook-ups at most sites. Each site has a fire ring and picnic table.

A heated swimming pool is open from Memorial Day through Labor Day, a beautifully landscaped 9-hole miniature golf course is available. There's also a small playground, a paved basketball court and two volleyball nets.

They have a limited grocery store kept stocked with the

basics. Propane, firewood, ice and bait are also available at the camp store.

Pets are welcome, but must be registered and kept on a leash at all times. Owners must clean up after their pets.

For rates and complete information, visit kokosingvalley.com.

Up in Mohican Country, **Butler Mohican KOA**, at 6918 Bunker Hill Road South, Butler, is located just minutes from Mohican State Park, miles of bicycle trails and canoeing on the Mohican River, and within easy reach of places like Malabar Farm, Amish Country and Pleasant Hill Lake.

The campground has 30 and 50 amp water/electric sites, 30 and 50 amp full hookup sites, pull-thru sites, primitive sites and camping cabins.

In addition to all the activities and attractions of the area, the campground offers a heated pool, catch-and-release fishing, a shelter house, game room, playground, sand volleyball, walking trails, an 18-hole miniature golf course, themed weekends and children's crafts, as well as free Wi-Fi.

There's also a grocery store with a full line of groceries and more, and a 24-hour laundry facility.

Visit their website at www.butlermohicankoa.com.

Additional information on campgrounds in the Mohican area can be found on Page 42 and 43.

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Auto racing is a popular diversion for folks in Knox County. Locally, racing fans can get their fix by taking part at Pacemakers Dragway Park.

Pacemakers is a 1/8-mile drag strip located off Ohio 3 on the southwest outskirts of Mount Vernon. It's considered one of the state's premier drag racing facilities. Pacemakers provides a full racing season from April through October, with points races counting toward National Hot Rod Association regional championships.

The track was built in the mid 1950s by 28 local racing enthusiasts looking for a safe place to drag race. The first official races at Pacemakers took place in 1956. Since then, hundreds have been known to sign up for individual events.

The track, which is currently owned by Larry Nelson, was recently handed over to the new track manager Rod Zolman. Plans for expansion will continue in future years.

During the season, racing can be seen at Pacemakers on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Junior Dragsters take over on Saturday mornings, while many NHRA points competitions are on Saturday and Sunday afternoons. Pacemakers is considered an NHRA Division III racetrack.

The track's motto is "The Place To Race," but that's more than a saying for current racers. The track currently has dozens of regular drivers who race all different styles of cars.

Pacemakers sponsors two major events: The Sharx Quick 32 series and the Bill Jackson's Racing Engines SST series. Both series run from May to September and give local racers a chance to earn regional points as well as a chance to compete against some of the best from around the Midwest. Cash prizes are given out at the end of each series, with the winners receiving more than \$1,000 in cash and certificates.

There is ample parking and a grandstand that seats 1,000 spectators.

One of the biggest events at the track is the Baker Memorial Competition. The event is in honor of George and Mary Lou Baker, the parents of competition director David Baker.

"The first time we held this event, it went well for every one," David Baker said. "This is an event to bring family and



friends together. I spent 2 1/2 years battling cancer myself, and after we had the first event, I decided to have another one. This event will be a points race. There will be plenty of sponsors and prize money available to the drivers."

For the event to be as successful as possible, there will need to be a lot of cars entered for the event, and Baker has hopes for a large crowd for the third annual event in 2015.

"If we have a lot of cars come out, it will allow us to improve the event in different ways," Baker said. "I am also hoping we can get more sponsors to come out to future events we put on."

Pacemakers Dragway Park holds a special place in Baker's heart. He has been associated with the track since 1991 and his family participated in the Saturday night races.

"It is a smaller track, but it is a family-oriented track," Baker said. "It has a nice feeling about it. My dad always stood at his special place on the track, which was at the corner of the starting line."

For more information on the track and the events it hosts, go online to the track's new website at www.pacemakers-dragwaypark.com or call the track at 740-397-2720.

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It's the most wonderful time of year, and Mount Vernon knows how to celebrate. The annual Christmas Parade and Walk offers laughter, goodies, seasonal joy and lasting memories.

Downtown merchants open their doors from 1-5 p.m., each year on the Sunday after Thanksgiving to usher in the joys of Christmas. Seasonal decorations and treats will create a festive atmosphere as you walk from store to store looking for that perfect gift. Appliances, books, toys, antiques, clocks, jewelry, food and more can be found downtown.

The Secret Santa Gift Shop will be available for the younger crowd. The child-friendly shop allows children 14 and under to purchase gifts for their family and friends. Throughout the event, "elves" will guide children around the gift shop while parents relax and wait for their children.

But don't let the shopping keep you away from welcoming the jolly man himself, Santa Claus. The annual Christmas Parade, sponsored by the *Mount Vernon News*, begins at 2:30 p.m., and includes upwards of 100 entries escorting Santa to his post on Public Square. Spectators will enjoy a variety of different entries including floats, tractors, horses and llamas, carriages, motorcycles, marching bands and fire trucks.

This is truly a family-friendly event with free rides on the carousel and Christmas Train. Children and adults will both enjoy a petting zoo and live holiday music throughout South Main Street. The evening closes with Caroling for



Christ on Public Square at 5 p.m.

For more information about the parade and walk, visit the Heritage Centre Association website at www.visitdowntownmountvernon.com.

The Heritage Centre Association and Downtown Mount Vernon is a nationally certified Main Street Program.

HISTORIC DISTRICTS

WWW.HISTORICKNOXOHIO.ORG

The establishment of historic districts preserves a history and protects stories worth repeating for future generations. Preserving this precious past only makes the future stronger.

The Downtown Mount Vernon Historic District was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on Feb. 3, 2012, after the Knox County Convention and Visitors Bureau Prepared and submitted the application. The Downtown District is primarily concentrated around the Public Square and along South Main Street, and includes sites such as the Dan Emmett House; Cleveland, Akron & Columbus Depot; and the Woodward Opera House.

Kenyon College and the Village of Gambier have both been listed as historic districts.

Kenyon was listed Dec. 6, 1975, with 13 campus resources. Highlights include Old Kenyon, Ascension Hall, Bexley Hall, and the Church of the Holy Spirit.

The Gambier Historic District was designated May 10, 2000, with approximately 135 contributing properties. Highlights include Wiggin Street Elementary, Red Wing, the

Post Office and Oak Grove Cemetery. The Gambier Historic District also includes several Kenyon College buildings that were not previously listed in the Kenyon nomination.

Fredericktown is designated a Multiple Resource Area (MRA). An MRA is a grouping of buildings/sites that are too sparsely scattered within an area to constitute a full district. It was listed on Nov. 6, 1979.

Fredericktown has nearly 25 homes listed within the MRA, including the old Davis & Dague Grocery, the Hosack House, the Dr. King House, and the Old Methodist Church (now the Fredericktown Historical Society).

Individual Listings

Two American Indian mound sites in the Fredericktown area are listed, as is one in the Mount Vernon area. There are 12 other properties scattered throughout Knox County that have been listed individually to the National Register.

The more well-known of these include the Woodward Opera House, Quarry Chapel Church, the Knox County Infirmary, Round Hill, the Mount Liberty Tavern and the Knox County Courthouse.

KNOX COUNTY FAIR

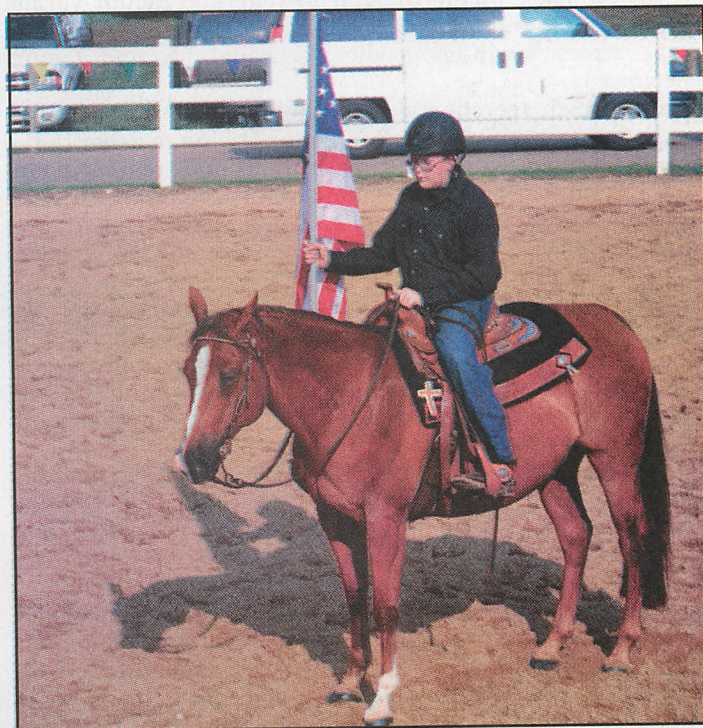
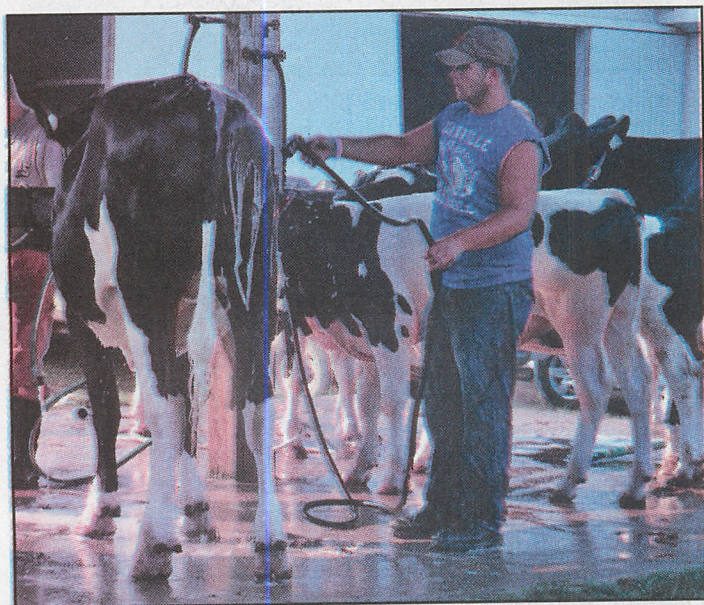
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125 FAIRGROUNDS ROAD

Celebrating our agricultural heritage is what the Knox County Fair is all about. The fairgrounds is located on Fairgrounds Road, just west of Wooster Road (Ohio 3) north of Mount Vernon, and there is ample parking to accommodate the thousands of people who attend each year.

Held during the last week of July, the Fair, one of the longest-running agricultural fairs in the state, having started in 1849. It delights visitors with its array of activities for people of all ages. The 2015 Fair will run from July 26-Aug. 1.

The Junior Fair features the accomplishments of area youth in 4-H, FFA, Grange, Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts, and fair goers are invited to the projects on display. Animal barns are home to cattle, horses, sheep, goats, chickens, turkeys, alpacas and llamas. Woodworking, sewing, photography and other arts and crafts completed by the youth are showcased as well.



The Senior Fair also offers exhibits of livestock, flowers, vegetables, arts and crafts and culinary masterpieces, and spectators are welcome at any of the judging contests.

Area businesses and organizations meet guests in the Merchants' Building while youth enjoy amusement rides. Concessions abound, many folks attend the Fair just to partake in the extensive variety of fair food available.

Local, regional and national talent provide special entertainment each night of the Fair. The grandstand shows include vocalists and bands, harness racing, a truck and tractor pull, rough truck competitions and school bus races. For more information, visit www.knoxcountyfair.org or call 740-397-0484.

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UTICA

Overlapping into southern Knox County along the Licking County line is the village of Utica, only a 11-mile drive to Mount Vernon and 25-mile drive to Columbus.

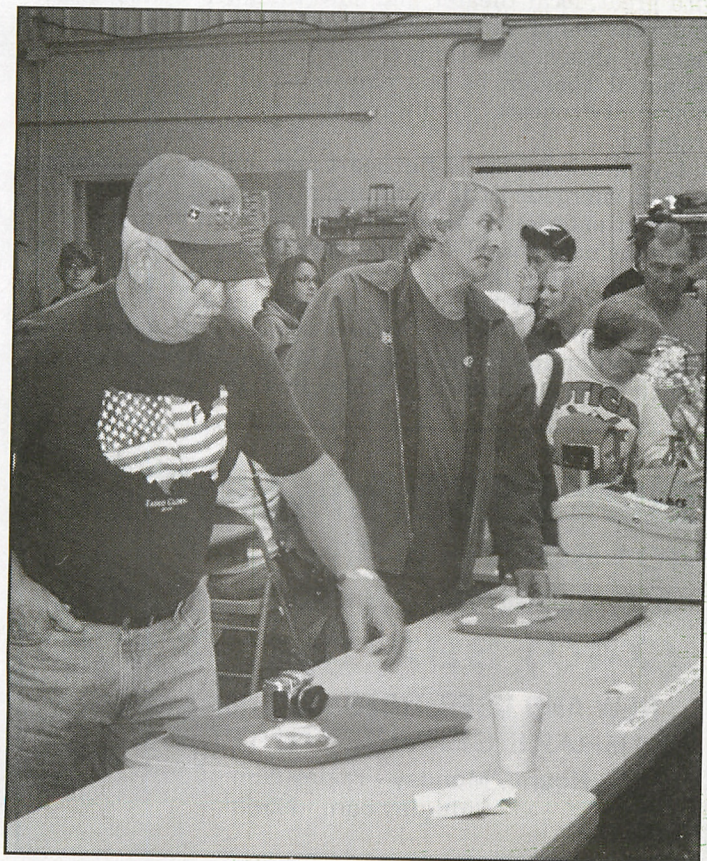
Located at Ohio 13 and U.S. 62, Utica is a small village of 2,200 people where the residents take pride in the hometown values of the community.

Visitors from all over central Ohio and even further venture to Utica each year on Memorial Day weekend for the three-day Utica Old Fashioned Ice Cream Festival. The Festival is conducted on the grounds of Velvet Ice Cream Co. and The Energy Cooperative and draws large crowds to the opening parade, arts and crafts displays, classic car show, Gold Wing cruise-in, kids games, numerous food vendors and variety of entertainment. An always-favorite attraction are the daily ice cream eating contests.

Other events that take place each year are the annual Utica Homecoming in September and the Christmas Walk on Main in December.

Once home to a thriving window glass industry in the early 1900s, Utica's economy is now driven by small businesses as one can find a veterinarian, grain elevator, hardware store, and dime store plus numerous restaurants, churches, filling stations, beauticians and specialty shops.

A self-operating government and strong public school system help make the village of Utica a place where families have called home for generations.



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SCENIC BYWAYS

Starting at Utica, two designated Scenic byways carry you through some of the prettiest country around.

The U.S. 62 Scenic Byway will carry you through Martinsburg, Millwood, Danville and on into Brinkhaven, a route also designated as the Gateway to Amish Country. At Danville, you can head north on Ohio 514, which is also designated as part of the Gateway to Amish Country. It also connects you to the Wally Road Scenic Byway through the scenic Mohican River Valley.

U.S. 62 passes through open farmland, with picturesque Amish farms intermixed with modern farming operations.

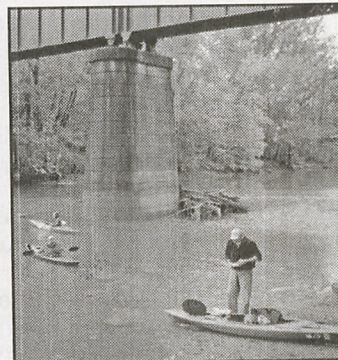
Along the way as you approach the heart of Amish country in Holmes County, the traveler will find attractions, including Amish bakeries, furniture stores and fruit and vegetable stands.

At Millwood, a stop at Honey Run Highlands Park is well worth the time. A unique waterfall and geological forma-

tions with an interesting plant population provide the setting for a pleasant walk along a creek flowing to the Kokosing River.

The Honey Run Highlands portion of the park features areas that were once farmed and fields that are maintained as open prairie, providing homes to plants and wildlife common to that habitat.

At Danville, you'll intersect the Kokosing Gap Trail, which winds back through Howard and Gambier to Mount Vernon. You can also use it to go east and connect with the Mohican Valley Trail.



NIGHTLIFE

When the sun goes down over the rolling hills of rural Ohio, it's time to hit the pavement and discover the nightlife that Knox County has to offer. Whether you're looking for the latest in Hollywood hits to the best in other world cuisine, there's plenty to check out in rural Knox County and downtown Mount Vernon.

From the bonfire to the local eatery, there's a hangout for the everyone. The Bad Apple Pub and the Howard Hilton, both in Howard, are places to enjoy delicious treats, and keep an eye on the game while catching up with friends. Local and regional bands are often booked at the Bad Apple for those who enjoy live music with good food, drinks and friends.

Moving into town, there are theater and dinner theater options available each season at the Alcove Restaurant,

with great, local theater and entertainment options available year-round at ThePlace@theWoodward. In addition, there is always something going on at the Mount Vernon Memorial Theater; be it a play, musical, concert series or community concert, it's always alive with the sound of the dramatic.

Live music is part of the heart and soul of Knox County, from its energetic local bands and artists that perform year-round at eateries, festivals and more. Some live and local talent includes gospel and bluegrass group, Chestnut Ridge; rock group, King Darwin; Kokosing River Surf Club; Katty Whomp Us; Ricky Matheny and Chris Gantt. Live and local music is around nearly every weekend at places like Flappers Bar and Grille in Mount Vernon, where 80 percent of their entertainment is provided by local musicians.



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COMMUNITY CONCERTS

CCAOFKNOXCOUNTY.COM

MEMORIAL THEATER MOUNT VERNON

What better way to entertain residents and visitors of Knox County than to take a joyous and musical journey with the Community Concert Association of Knox County.

With its live, quality entertainment, the CCA of Knox County has been entertaining for the past 95 years and is still going strong.

Since 1919, the CCA of Knox County has brought many well-known musical acts to the heart of Ohio for all to enjoy.

For the 2014-15 concert season, six musical legends and acts travel to Knox County from all across the country to bring the best of the best to the legendary and great Memorial Theater.

The 2015 season showcases:

- Jason Coleman, March 7, at 7:30 p.m., performs masterful classics on the piano to bring the great sounds of yesterday to the Memorial Theater.

- Brian Roman, March 21, at 7:30 p.m., will showcase Roman's vocal stylings to hit pop songs, feel good music and the classics.

- Susan Egan, April 11, at 7:30 p.m., is a Broadway veteran that brings musical theater to the Memorial Theater.

Tickets are \$50 per adult, \$20 for a student membership and \$100 for a family membership. Students 21 and under are free with a ticket holding adult.



The 2015-16 season begins in September.

For more information about the CCA of Knox County, visit ccaofknoxcounty.com or contact the CCA by email at ccaofknoxcounty@gmail.com.

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Knox County

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FREDERICKTOWN

FREDERICKTOWN.NET

All roads lead to Fredericktown

It's a small town — 2,500 people — with just the right blend of respect for individuality and an obligation to community. Problems are manageable.

Stability is reliable. Security is practical. And familiarity is not only desirable, it makes every day life enjoyable.

The town's convenient central Ohio location works to the advantage of business, industry and travelers. Access is easy via Interstate 71 and Ohio 13, but they have made the absolute best of their location. The Fredericktown community offers shops, restaurants, a 50-acre Nature Park, a natural swimming lake, plus beautiful lakes: Knox Lake and Kokosing Reservoir that provide hours of fishing, boating and camping fun.

Cyclists are always welcome in Fredericktown, and in fact, many cyclists have already discovered the beautiful landscapes, good roads and restaurants.

Fredericktown has been a stop on the Great Ohio Bicycle Adventure (GOBA), and is a stop on the Underground Railroad Bicycle Route.

Throughout the summer months cyclists from across the nation follow the route and make a stop in Fredericktown.

The quality of life makes living here exceptional, with neighborhoods that show pride of ownership, and people sharing a sense of community. The bandstand on the public square is a prime example. It was built in 1987 in a single day. Through the efforts of civic groups, village officials, area organizations and private individuals, the project, including funding, was completed in 10 weeks from inception to completion.

Several years later, the community built a new library entirely by volunteer funding and labor.

The annual Fredericktown Tomato Show is a much anticipated event beginning the Wednesday after Labor Day and continuing for four days. The first event was held in 1976, the nation's bicentennial.

But the quality of life doesn't stop at the village boundaries. Beautiful farms dot rural Fredericktown, where farmers use good agricultural practices, organic and natural

Continued on Page 53



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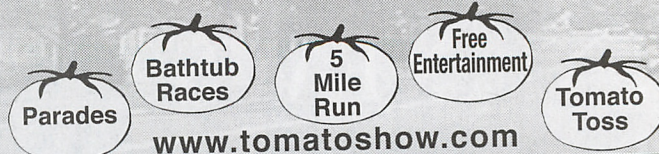
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FREDERICKTOWN TOMATO SHOW

September 9th-12th, 2015



www.tomatoshow.com

FREDERICKTOWN

WWW.FREDERICKTOWN.NET

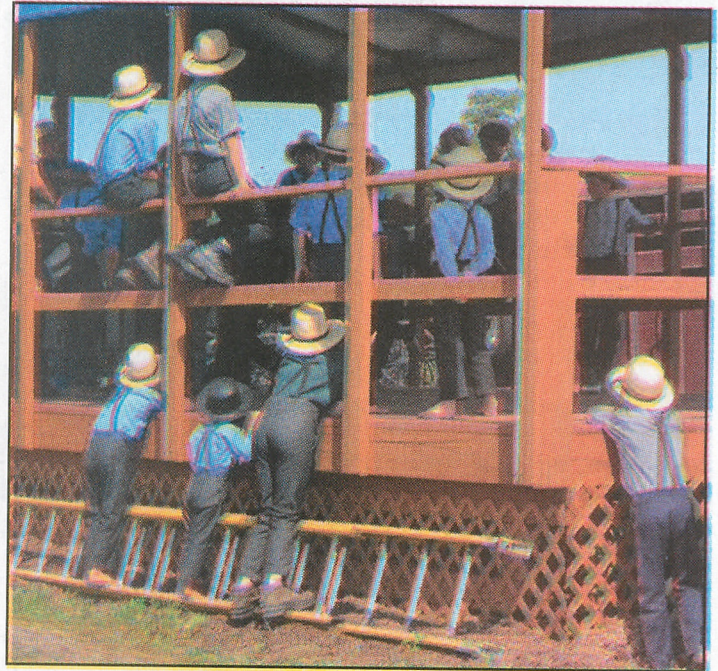
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methods. Farmers are finding their niche in the local marketplace, providing excellent quality crops, such as corn, soybeans, alfalfa and wheat; livestock: Cattle, sheep, dairy, llamas and goats.

Fredericktown is home to the largest Old Order Amish community in Ohio. Beginning in Middlebury Township, just northwest of the village, the settlement extends into Morrow and Richland counties. This settlement is a conservative order. They meet in their homes for church services in church districts composed of nearby neighbors. There are several one-room schools in the area where children attend through eighth grade. Amish businesses welcome shoppers for such items as handcrafted furniture, kitchen cabinets, windows, produce and fresh fruit in season. Amish stores are not open on Sundays.

At Owl Creek Produce Auction in Waterford, just outside Fredericktown, Amish and "English" gather inside a modest, open-air pavilion to exchange seasonal produce and to socialize. This produce auction was created in 2006, and provides a venue where Amish and "English" can gather and learn from each another, strengthening the bonds in the surrounding community. For more information, visit www.owl-creekauction.com.

For more information, contact Fredericktown Tourism Development Committee, P.O. Box 140, Fredericktown, OH 43019; on Facebook and online at www.fredericktown.net.



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Knox County WORSHIP DIRECTORY

Ankenytown Grace Brethern Church

**20601 Old Mansfield Road
Bellville**

740-694-6936

Sunday School 9:30am

Sunday Worship 10:30am

Wednesday Bible Study/King's Kids 6:30pm

Apostolic Christian Church

**1635 West 229
Mount Vernon**

www.vernonchurch.org

740-393-1676

Sunday Morning Service 10:00am

Sunday Evening Service 6:00pm

Wednesday Service 7:30pm

Apostolic Faith Church

**801 West High Street
Mount Vernon**

email: efaith801@yahoo.com

740-358-1332

Sunday Morning: Prayer 9:00am, Worship 11:30am

Sunday School: 10:00am

Tuesday Night: Prayer 6:30pm, Bible Study 7:00pm

Berean Faith Fellowship

**103 Madison Street
Mount Vernon**

www.bereanfaithfellowship.org

740-504-8960

Sunday 9:00am & 6:00pm

Wednesday 6:00pm

Central Christian Church

**17833 Gambier Road (229 East)
Mount Vernon**

www.cccmv.com

740-397-1840

Traditional Worship 8:30am

Blended Contemporary Worship 10:15am

Sunday Youth Group 6:30pm

Wednesday Graded Children/Youth Outreach 6:30pm

The Church at Chapel Hill

**7530 Johnstown Road
Mount Vernon**

www.cachmv.com

Sunday - Fusion Families Class 9:30am

Worship Service 10:45am

Wednesday - Awana, Adult &

Teen Bible Studies 6:30pm

The Church On the Rise

**7512 Newark Road
Mount Vernon**

740-397-9022

Sunday Morning Worship 10:00am

Children's Sunday School 11:00am

Wednesday Bible Study - 6:30pm

Last Sunday Of Each Month - Singspiration 6:00pm

Community Bible Church

**7300 Thatcher Road
Mt. Liberty**

740-393-2425

Sunday School 9:30am

Sunday Morning Worship 10:30am

Eastside Church of Christ

**1120 Yauger Road
Mount Vernon**

740-397-3804

Sunday Bible Class 9:30am

Sunday Morning Worship 10:30am

Sunday Evening Worship 5:00pm

Wednesday Bible Study 6:30pm

Faith Lutheran Church

**170 Mansfield Avenue
Mount Vernon**

Email: faithlutheran@midohiotwcbc.com

www.faith-lutheran-online.org

740-393-3666

Sunday Worship 8:00am & 10:30am

Sunday School 9:15am

First Christian Church

**5 Harrison Avenue
Mount Vernon**

740-397-9103

Cell 740-398-0681

Sunday 10:30am

First Congregational United Church of Christ

**200 North Main Street
Mount Vernon**

www.mvucc.org

740-393-1736

Sunday Worship 9:30am

Church School 11:00am

Welcoming & Honoring God's Rainbow

Spectrum of People

First Presbyterian of Mount Vernon

**106 North Gay Street
Mount Vernon**

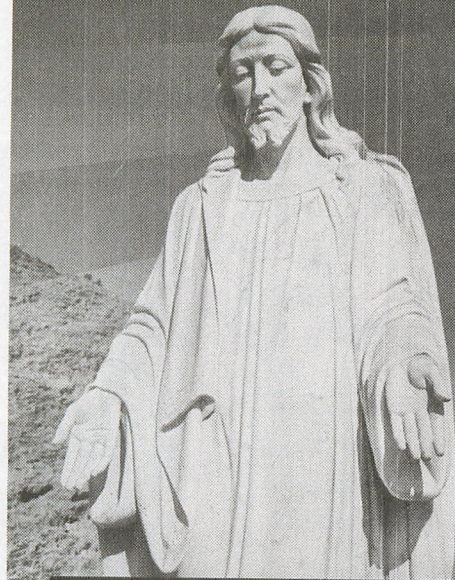
www.mtvpres.org

740-393-1326

Sunday - Contemporary Worship 9:00am

Traditional Worship 11:00am

Knox County WORSHIP DIRECTORY



Fredericktown United Methodist Church

**123 Columbus Road
Fredericktown**

freddieumc.org
740-694-5806

Sunday Worship 9:00am & 11:15am
Sunday School 10:10am

Grace Community Church

**18350 Hopewell Road
Mount Vernon**

www.mtvgcc.org
740-397-1017

Sunday Breakfast 9:15am
Sunday Worship 10:30am

Hopewell United Methodist Church

**20220 Hopewell Road
Mount Vernon**

www.mvhopewellumc.org
740-504-8601

Sunday School 8:30am
Worship Service 9:30am

St. Luke Catholic Church

**307 South Market Street
Danville**

www.stlukedanvilleoh.org
740-599-6362

Saturday at 5:00pm
Sunday at 10:00am

Fredericktown Church of Christ

**18883 Pinkley Road
Fredericktown**

www.KnowTheTruth@fredericktownchurchofchrist.com
740-694-1653

Sunday - Bible Study 9:30am
Worship 10:30am & 6:00pm
Wednesday - Bible Study 7:00pm

Gay Street United Methodist Church

**18 North Gay Street
Mount Vernon**

www.gaystreetumc.org
740-392-6626

Sunday Worship
8:30am & 10:45am

Green Valley Chapel United Methodist Church

**9288 Green Valley Road
Mount Vernon**

740-507-7953

Sunday 10:30am

Lakeholm Church of the Nazarene

**16001 Glen Road
Mount Vernon**

www.lakeholm.org
740-397-1105

Sunday 9:30am - Morning Worship
11:00am - Sunday School for all ages
7:00pm Wednesday Activities

St. Vincent dePaul Church

**201 East High Street
Mount Vernon**

www.stvincentmountvernon.org
740-392-4711

Saturday Evening Service 4:30pm
Sunday Morning Service 8:00am, 10:00am
and 11:30am
4th Sunday - Spanish Mass 11:30am

Fredericktown First Baptist Church

**22 East Sandusky Street
Fredericktown**

www.fredfbc.org
740-694-2856

Sunday School - 9:15am
Sunday Worship - 10:15am

Grace Baptist Church in Amity, OH

**20691 Danville-Amity Road
Amity, OH**

www.grace-bc.com
740-507-8579

740-397-0564

Morning Worship Service at 11:00am

Green Valley Southern Baptist Church

**1680 Old Delaware Road
Mount Vernon**

740-393-3922

Sunday School 9:45am
Sunday Morning Worship 11:00am
Sunday Evening Worship 6:00pm
Wednesday Prayer Meeting 7:00pm

Mulberry Street United Methodist Church

**205 N. Mulberry Street
Mount Vernon**

www.mulberryumc.org
740-393-2576

Sundays - 9:30am Sunday School
10:15am Fellowship
10:45am Blended Worship

Victory Church of Christ

**12470 Upper Fredericktown Road
Mount Vernon**

www.victorycoc.org
740-397-6396

Sunday School 9:30am
Sunday Worship Service 10:30am & 6:00pm
Thursday Bible Study 7:00pm

WOODWARD OPERA HOUSE

THEWOODWARD.ORG

107 SOUTH MAIN STREET, MOUNT VERNON

In 1850 a Mount Vernon entrepreneur leased land on the corner of South Main and Vine streets. There, Ebenezer Woodward built a four-story building with a meeting hall on the fourth floor. Over the next thirty years this building would be expanded and developed into what may be the oldest unaltered theater block in the country: the Woodward Opera House, on the upper floors of 101–105 South Main Street in Mount Vernon. This vaudeville house once hosted the finest entertainers of its day, including stage legends Minnie Maddern Fiske and Frank Currier, comic monologist Bob Burdette, and minstrel man Dan Emmett. Then-Senator William McKinley spoke on its stage prior to his 1896 presidential bid. Touring lecturers and theatrical and vaudeville companies appeared there an average of three evenings a week from the 1850s until the early 1920s when radio and the movies replaced vaudeville. Parts of the building also saw service as a military drill hall, party center, roller-skating parlor, basketball court, and indoor horseshoe pitch. Later owners closed off the upper floors, choosing to keep in good repair only the spaces used by office and retail tenants.

Since then many have worked to restore the Woodward and in 1998 were successful with the purchase of the building by the Woodward Development Corporation, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) with no stockholders. This group has set goals to faithfully restore the space to its 1880s décor, reopen it as a modern 500 seat performance venue, and housed in an expanded and upgraded theater/commercial real estate complex. Importantly, when completed, the Woodward will be debt-free, financially self-sustaining, and become an integral part of the community.

Much thought and effort has been directed over the last 17 years to integrate the adjacent Annex (purchased in 2000) and Woodward buildings to make the entire complex an attractive asset for many forms of theatrical and commercial activity. Two elevators will provide access to all floors. The complex will benefit from the Local Food Initiative – an institutional code compliant kitchen housed in the basement and a first floor local food market and café of the Annex. Two specifically purposed black box spaces on the 2nd and 4th floors of the Annex will replace the very suc-



cessful but modest first floor black box ThePlace@TheWoodward and complement the restored 500 seat Woodward Opera House Theater. Restored and renovated office spaces in the Woodward and Annex upper floors will feature flexible co-working shared spaces, general office space, state-of-the-art information and communications technology, and large group working spaces.

Government approved Federal, State, and economic development tax credit funding is expected by early 2015 after which restoration and major construction in the Annex will commence immediately.

In addition to private groups The Woodward is open to the public for tours:

- 6 to 8 p.m. during First Friday Events from May through October;
 - Saturday mornings from 10:30 to 12:30 p.m. concurrent with public square Farmers Markets through Labor Day;
 - The Dan Emmett Music and Arts Festival August 13 – 16;
 - The annual Christmas Walk and Parade November 29;
- Project information is available online by visiting www.TheWoodward.org.

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RICHLAND COUNTY

From a carousel to fire museum, shopping stores and nature center, Richland County, just north of Knox County, gives visitors a plethora of places to explore.

A long-standing bandstand, antique shops and a array of festivities can be found in the village of Bellville, on Ohio 13, north of Mount Vernon. Bellville's landmark

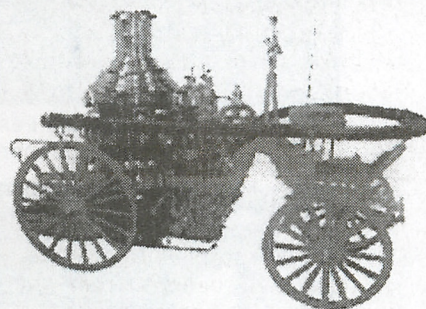


bandstand was built in 1879 and fits perfectly with the vintage homes and brick storefronts in the village. A variety of small stores, beauty shops, flower shops and other gift shops line Bellville's main strip. Festivals are celebrated in the quaint town with the street mart during the weekend after July 4 and Bellville's Worlds Fair on the second week after Labor Day. For more information about Bellville, visit www.visitbellvilleohio.com.

Heading north on Ohio 13, Mansfield comes into view. The famous Ohio State Reformatory which is the filming site of the blockbuster movie, "The Shawshank Redemption;" the Mansfield Fire Museum and Educational Center; Mansfield Art Center; The Living Bible Museum; Gorman Nature Center; and the Malabar Farm State Park gives visitor a taste of the past, present and future.

The Richland Carrousel Park in downtown Mansfield features hand-carved carousel figures including 30 horses and 22 menagerie figures. The indoor facility is handicapped accessible and is open year-round. For more information about Mansfield, visit www.ci.mansfield.oh.us.

For more information about Richland County, and other cities and villages in the county, visit www.richlandcountyoh.us.



Mansfield Fire Museum and Educational Center

1265 West Fourth Street,
Mansfield, Ohio

2 Miles West of the Carrousel District

Phone: (419) 529-2573

Website: www.mansfieldfiremuseum.com

Mid May through Mid October

Saturday and Sunday

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Other Hours by Appointment

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Donations Welcome

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Village-Wide Garage Sales—June

Farmers Market—June-October

Street Mart—July

Car Show—July

World's Fair—September

Christmas Parade & Open House

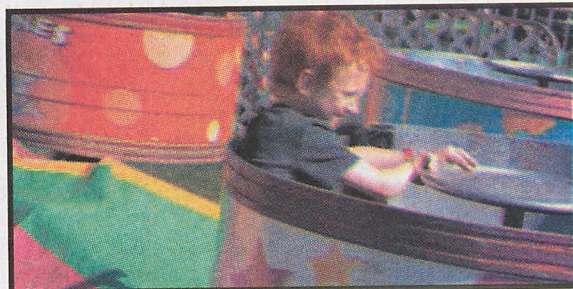
With Santa—December

Near I-71 Exit 165 between Columbus & Cleveland, 3 miles east on St. Rt. 97

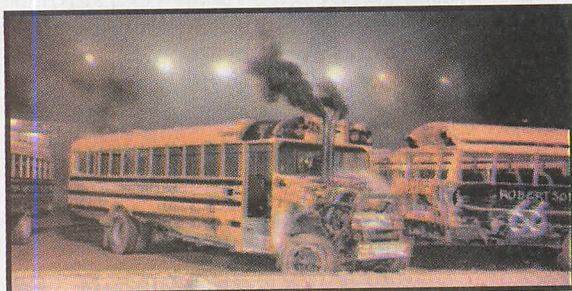
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& Many Other
Attractions



Heritage Centre First Friday
First Friday of each month May - October



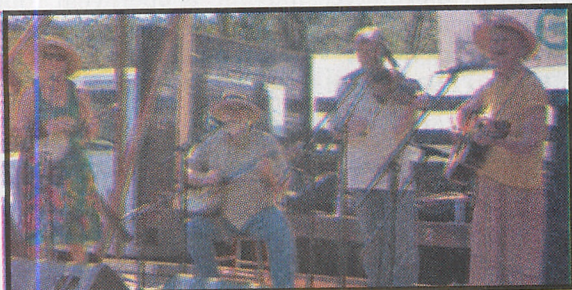
Danville-Howard Turkey Festival
June 17-20



Knox County Fair
July 26 - August 1



Dan Emmett Music & Arts Festival
August 13-16



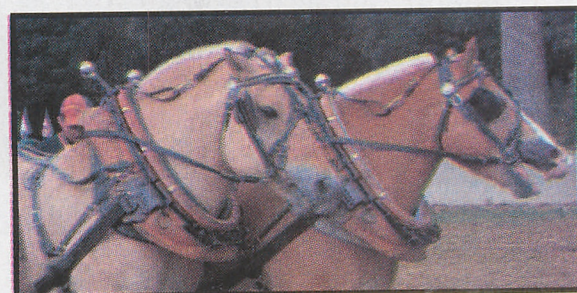
Ohiolina Festival
Late summer 2015



Fredericktown Tomato Show
September 9-12



Mohican Bluegrass Festival
September 17-19



Oldtime Farming Festival
September 18-20



Heart of Ohio Tour
October 3-4



Heritage Centre Christmas Parade and Walk
November 29

Amish Area

62

AMISH SCENIC BYWAY

DANVILLE

TO MILLERSBURG

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137 North Main Street
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Kenyon College Bookstore
Howard
21973 Coshocton Road
Millersburg
225 North Clay Street

88 East Jackson Street
Bags
Mount Gilead
504 West High Street
651 West Marion Road
Morrow County Hospital
Mount Vernon
11 West Vine Street

110 Mount Vernon Avenue
Outside Colonial City Lanes
1330 Coshocton Avenue
Knox Community Hospital
810 Coshocton Avenue
8641 Blackjack Road
236 South Main Street
Central Ohio Technical College